



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Reaction to U.S. Trade Representative's Remarks

AMA Head Reacts 'Strongly'

OW1703114794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT
17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—A Japanese auto industry leader Thursday [17 March] reacted strongly to a remark by U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor in which he sought government guarantees of Japanese automakers' plans to expand purchases of U.S. auto parts.

Yutaka Kume, head of the Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association [AMA], told reporters that Kantor's comment, made earlier in the week, would dampen Japanese carmakers' efforts to help put Japan's trade ties with the United States back on a normal footing. Referring to a remark by International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai calling on Japanese automakers to quickly make public their auto parts purchase plans, Kume said it is an individual corporate problem and not a government issue.

Kume, who is also president of Nissan Motor Co., Japan's No. 2 automaker, said the government should not comment on carmakers' plans, as this tends to cause misunderstanding.

More Commentary on Kantor Remark

OW1703041494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0341 GMT
17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—The Japanese Government cannot guarantee any market-opening measures to be announced by Japan's auto industry regarding imports of auto parts, a government source said Thursday. "It's impossible to do what is impossible even if U.S. Trade Representative (Mickey) Kantor cries out," the source said.

Kantor, speaking before the House Trade Subcommittee on Tuesday, pointed to a need for government guarantees to ensure that the planned steps by the auto industry are effective in boosting purchases of U.S. auto parts.

Japanese trade officials dismissed Kantor's remark, saying the government cannot control business activities as doing so runs counter to the government policy of deregulation.

Kumano: No Extra Steps To Buy Foreign Chips

OW1703064494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0628 GMT
17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan will not take additional steps to boost purchases of foreign-made semiconductors, a senior Trade Ministry official said Thursday. Hideaki Kumano, vice international trade and industry minister, told a press conference that Tokyo is doing its utmost to expand foreign chip buying.

Kumano was responding to newspaper reports that the United States has urged Tokyo to formulate new action

plans on chip trade, including the government encouraging the auto and telecommunications sectors to step up foreign chip buying and extending the current chip accord calling for the 20 percent foreign share in the Japanese market for additional years. The reported U.S. requests are similar to those shown in the bilateral chip trade talks in January, Kumano said.

Washington may renew these demands in the ongoing Hawaii talks to assess the chip trade performance in October-December of 1993 but Japan has no intention of taking new measures, Kumano said.

Kumano said the latest accord between Tokyo and Washington over cellular phone trade cannot be applied to auto and other trade issues covered under the "framework" talks.

The comment came in response to Washington's reported request in the past several days for Tokyo to ensure results in auto trade areas on the basis of the approach used in settling the trade dispute between Motorola Inc. and Nippon Idou Tshushin Corp. (IDO).

Telecommunications trade is different from autos, Kumano said, explaining that the former sector is under government regulations, allowing room for government intervention.

It is "impossible" for the government to force automakers to guarantee the size of their parts buying from the U.S., Kumano said. Such a request would strip Tokyo of its willingness to make efforts to get the stalled framework talks rolling again, he said.

Tokyo Wants U.S. Talks on Multimedia Issue

OW1703085394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0824 GMT
17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan wants to discuss with the United States legal systems for the advanced telecommunication tool called multimedia in the next bilateral talks to head off future trade friction in the area, government officials said Thursday [17 March].

The officials of the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry said the next regular telecommunication talks between the ministry and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission are slated in Tokyo this summer. They said, under the current legal systems in Japan, such services as telephones are regulated by telecommunication law, while services like cable television are controlled by broadcasting law. Legally, an organization can operate in both fields.

Providing multimedia services—a combination of both telecommunications and broadcasting—is therefore allowed to any company except for organizations like Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT), KDD [Kokusai Denshin Denwa] and Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK). Yet, the officials said, new regulations have to be considered in actual multimedia services, including ways to control privacy.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Government, pushing for an advanced communication technology called information superhighway, is apparently considering changing laws which now prohibit organizations to operate in both telecommunication and broadcasting fields, the officials said. Japan therefore wants to suggest that this issue be taken up in the next talks so the two nations can adjust respective legal systems regarding the advanced telecommunication field, they said.

Two U.S. Sailors Arrested in Yokosuka Attack

OW1703030894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0248 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Yokohama, March 17 KYODO—Police arrested two U.S. Navy seamen Thursday [17 March] in the port city of Yokosuka, south of Tokyo, on suspicion of maliciously inflicting bodily harm to a Japanese man. Police said the two seamen, one 19 and the other 20, of the Yokosuka U.S. Naval base, were suspected of attacking an employee of a local public office as he was returning home around Wednesday midnight.

The 31-year-old victim told police that three black men approached him on the pretext of asking directions, sprayed him with a mace-like substance and then punched him in the face.

Police said the two arrested men were among a group of three persons who fled when they were approached. One of the three escaped pursuit.

The 20-year-old was identified as Bernard Constantine, a petty officer, second class. The name of the 19-year-old was not released because of his status as a minor.

An investigation is continuing to see if the arrested seamen are linked to two muggings on Wednesday night perpetrated by a group of three black men.

Hosokawa's 19-21 Mar Trip to PRC Previewed

To Emphasize 'Future Ties'

OW1703101994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0845 GMT 17 Mar 94

[By Miu Oikawa Dieter]

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa wants his March 19-21 visit to China to emphasize the development of future ties with Japan's neighbor rather than dwell too much on the past, government officials said.

During the trip that will take him to Beijing and Shanghai, Hosokawa is scheduled to meet President Jiang Zemin and Premier Li Peng to discuss bilateral and international affairs, Foreign Ministry officials said.

In Shanghai, he will visit the Pudong development district and attend a luncheon hosted by Shanghai Mayor Huang Ju.

The officials predict that recent exchanges between Japanese and Chinese leaders will result in "frank discussions."

Jiang visited Japan in April 1992, while Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko toured China in October of that year.

Under Hosokawa's government, Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata met Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in September, and Hosokawa held talks with Jiang in Seattle in November. In January this year, Hata visited Beijing and Chinese Vice Premier Zhu Rongji came to Japan last month.

Officials said Hosokawa will express Japan's continued support for Beijing's market-oriented reforms and backing for China's bid to become a member of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Hosokawa said earlier this week there are no major pending issues between the two nations. He cited the signing of a bilateral environmental treaty and discussions on North Korea's alleged development of nuclear weapons as events scheduled during the trip.

Japan has closely consulted with the United States, South Korea and China over North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons program, agreeing to seek a "diplomatic solution" to the problem.

Hosokawa is expected to urge Beijing to continue its efforts to persuade Pyongyang to allow international inspections of all its nuclear sites to eliminate international concern that it is developing nuclear weapons, the officials said.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Wednesday that North Korea refused to allow IAEA inspectors to conduct tests at a laboratory in Yongbyon, some 90 kilometers northwest of the capital. Washington said a third round of talks with Pyongyang, scheduled for Monday, would be postponed because of the refusal.

Among other topics on the agenda for talks between Hosokawa and the Chinese leaders are disarmament and bilateral cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region, the officials said.

The officials said both sides will confirm that Tokyo and Beijing should work together to maintain the free trade system in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum while taking into account the region's diversity.

Japan and China will also seek to increase their dialogue on security matters, they said.

Hosokawa may be briefed by the Chinese on Sino-U.S. relations in the wake of last week's visit by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the officials said. In that connection, Hosokawa may urge China to take immediate steps to improve its human rights record "in a way understandable to the international community," according to government sources.

Hosokawa is also likely to voice concern over China's increasing defense expenditure and call for greater openness or "transparency" in its defense budget, the sources

said. Last week China announced an increase of some 22.4 percent over 1993 in its defense budget to 52.04 billion yuan (about 653 billion yen), up from last year's 42.5 billion yuan (about 533 billion yen).

The officials said Hosokawa will also call on Beijing to institute a permanent ban on nuclear tests and ensure the peaceful transition of Hong Kong from Britain to China in 1997. China resumed nuclear tests in October.

Hosokawa also plans to offer an apology over Japan's wartime atrocities by citing examples of such actions by the Japanese Imperial Army, but the specific wording has yet to be worked out, sources close to the prime minister said.

Hosokawa is also expected to tell the Chinese side what kind of projects Japan is interested in extending yen loans for from fiscal 1996. The Chinese Government has not yet given Japan an official list of projects it wants the loans to cover.

Under the environment cooperation treaty to be signed during Hosokawa's visit, Japan will provide China with technology to combat acid rain, and air and water pollution in the wake of China's rapid industrialization the officials said.

In the cultural field, Hosokawa is to pledge Japanese financial cooperation to restore Sheyuan Palace in the ancient capital of Xian, the officials said.

'New Triangular Balance' Viewed

*OW1703055694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0527 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Beijing, March 17 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's visit to Beijing this weekend comes just one week after China's bashing of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

The visit, set to begin Saturday [19 March] and end Monday, is the first by Hosokawa as Japan's prime minister and is expected to set the tone for a new triangular balance between the two economic superpowers and China's emerging market.

Political analysts in Beijing believe that after the verbal thrashing that Christopher took, the Chinese leadership will most likely greet Hosokawa with open arms.

Hosokawa's busy but relaxed agenda, which will take him to a Beijing subway station and a free market, attests to the cordial atmosphere that is expected to surround the trip. He is also scheduled to have meetings with President Jiang Zemin, Premier Li Peng and Vice Premier Zhu Rongji.

Japanese-Chinese economic relations have made giant strides over the last two years with bilateral trade hitting an all-time high of about 38 billion dollars in 1993.

Japanese economic clout will be needed more than ever if the U.S. Administration of President Bill Clinton decides to pull the plug on China's most-favored-nation trading status.

China, of course, needs all the help it can get if its transformation from a centralized economy, burdened by a huge inefficient state sector, to an economy capable of responding to market forces is to be successful.

Hosokawa, however, is relatively unknown to a Chinese leadership that views him only as a transitional leader and which longs for the pandering meted out by the Liberal Democratic Party to continue.

For Hosokawa, the trip should offer a good opportunity to be firm with the Chinese leadership and to seek to use the trip in any way possible to shore up his domestic image, analysts said. Although he is expected to continue his policy of apologizing for Japanese war crimes, reports have also said he will push the Chinese on human rights issues and environmental protection.

Hosokawa is also expected to seek a sound explanation for the 22 percent increase in China's military expenditures announced last Friday at the ongoing National People's Congress, China's legislature. He will push the Chinese to play a bigger role in helping solve international disputes stemming from North Korea's suspected nuclear development program, while calling for China to ban the testing of nuclear weapons.

After two days in Beijing, the prime minister will visit Shanghai on Monday and tour the Pudong development area before returning to Japan later in the day.

Concern Voiced Over DPRK-IAEA Issue

*OW1703114294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1124 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan voiced concern Thursday [17 March] over North Korea's reported obstruction of international inspections at one of its nuclear facilities. "We can't but feel concerned that North Korea did not fully and sincerely uphold its agreement with the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) and that diversion of nuclear material for military purposes could not be verified," Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata told a press conference.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura also said during an earlier press conference that Japan is "deeply concerned."

The IAEA said Wednesday Pyongyang obstructed checks at a key nuclear facility and that the agency would hold a special meeting of its board of governors next Monday, as the long-standing nuclear controversy with North Korea soared to new heights.

The Vienna-based international nuclear watchdog said North Korea barred a team of its inspectors from carrying out "important measures" at a radiochemical laboratory in Yongbyon which the IAEA regards as a nuclear reprocessing plant.

The United States also said a third round of talks with North Korea, scheduled for next Monday in Geneva, would be postponed due to North Korea's refusal to cooperate.

Hata and Takemura both cited the necessity of renewed calls to North Korea to completely accept international inspections of all its facilities. Hata said the problem of North Korea's suspected nuclear program would naturally be discussed when Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa visits China from Saturday to Monday.

Government officials have said Hosokawa is expected to call for China's continued role in persuading Pyongyang to accept full inspections to sweep away international concern over its alleged nuclear program.

Hata said Japan wants to seek a solution to the problem through negotiations. He declined to say what the Japanese Government would do if the IAEA meeting adopted a resolution referring the matter to the United Nations Security Council, saying it is too early to comment.

If the IAEA meeting declares North Korea in breach of nuclear safeguard accords, the matter would be referred to the U.N. Security Council, which might impose economic sanctions on Pyongyang.

A South Korean Foreign Ministry official said Thursday that the nuclear watchdog is likely to demand that North Korea grant complete inspections of its radiochemical laboratory instead of opting for sanctions.

ROK Said Not To Reduce Shipbuilding Capacity

OW1603125494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1152 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—The South Korean shipbuilding industry has not agreed to exercise self-restraint in stepping up their shipbuilding capacity in talks held between industry leaders of Japan, South Korea and Europe, a Japanese industry leader said Wednesday [16 March]. "The three sides could not reach an agreement," said Shigeru Goda, chairman of the Shipbuilders Association of Japan, at a regular press conference.

Japan and Europe have been asking South Korea to voluntarily reduce its shipbuilding capacity which has strengthened noticeably this year since the abolition in late 1993 of a South Korean law restricting the growth of shipbuilding capacity. The South Korean shipbuilding industry has become even more conspicuous as the competitiveness of Japanese shipbuilders has declined with the appreciation of the Japanese currency.

Goda said that during the Japan-South Korea, and Japan-South Korea-Europe talks held from March 12 to 14, Japanese and European officials said the global shipbuilding industry would be able to meet future demand at the current level of shipbuilding capacity. They pointed to the danger of excess shipbuilding capacity leading to lower prices and an eventual slump in the industry, Goda said.

South Korea responded that their government is pursuing a policy of easing restrictions, and that they have no intention of extending their share of the market by cheaper prices, Goda said.

In 1993, South Korea surpassed Japan to become the world's largest shipbuilder, with orders totaling 9.52 million tons.

Tokyo Gives Loan, Disaster Relief Goods to Peru

OW1603002994 Tokyo KYODO in English 2258 GMT 15 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—Japan will loan Peru up to 2.24 billion yen to cooperate in its project to beef up its public welfare services, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday [16 March]. Japanese Parliamentary Vice Foreign Minister Syozo Azuma and Peruvian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Efrain Gordonberg Schreiber exchanged documents on the Japanese loan in Lima.

Azuma told Gordonberg the Japanese Government will provide emergency relief materials worth 19 million yen to help the victims of heavy rains, which have killed more than 71 people in Peru. The loan, to be extended in coordination with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), will be used for Peru's program to improve and modernize the basic equipment in public medical organizations which offer medical services to people on low incomes, the officials said.

Because of the lack of basic medical equipment and funds, there are insufficient medical services for such people in Peru, and epidemics such as cholera and malaria are common in the country.

The 30-year loan, with a 10-year grace period, carries an annual interest rate of 3 percent. It brings the total amount of Japanese loans extended to the Latin American nation to 153.87 billion yen, the officials said.

The emergency relief materials from Japan include blankets, tents and medical goods, they said.

According to the officials, heavy rains have been falling on the mountainous regions of Peru since mid-January. As of March 1, the subsequent floods and landslides had killed 71 people and affected another 70,000.

The officials said the Peruvian Government has requested emergency relief goods from Japan.

Plutonium Recycling Research Slowdown Urged

OW1703124594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—A top-ranking Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) official on Thursday [17 March] called for a slowdown in research and development [R & D] on plutonium recycling. This will be necessary if Japan is to allay possible suspicions that it may possess nuclear weapons in the future, said the official who wants not to be identified.

Japan is known to be ahead of other countries in R & D related to plutonium recycling.

Ministry: No Domestic Rice in Stock by Oct

*OW1603133694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1308 GMT
16 Mar 94*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—The Agriculture Ministry will have no domestic-produced rice in stock at the end of the 1993-94 rice year in October because of the worst postwar harvest last year, ministry sources said Wednesday [16 March]. Japan may be forced to import rice for the second straight year in 1995 if the 1994 domestic harvest is also affected by bad weather.

According to the outline of an annual production-supply plan to be formulated at the end of March, the ministry will have no rice left in stock to carry over to the new rice year. "Such a situation is unavoidable after last year's extremely poor harvest," a ministry official said.

The plan calls for the ministry to ease the rice production adjustment this year to ensure a government stock of 660,000 tons at the end of October 1995. The program will have to be overhauled if rice production is poor again this year.

A rice production target of 10.58 million tons was set for 1994, an increase of 320,000 tons over the previous year's original target. To achieve this goal, rice acreage reduction this year will be limited to 600,000 hectares rather than the 676,000 hectares originally planned, and additional 32,000 hectares of land will be restored to production to bring the total restored acreage for rice production to 108,000 hectares.

The ministry estimates domestic rice demand of 9.92 million tons for the year ending October 1995, down from the preceding year by approximately 30,000 to 130,000 tons.

Japan will also import an estimated 379,000 tons of rice in 1995 in accordance with an agreement reached under the Uruguay Round of world trade talks.

Hata Apologizes for Confusion Over Rice Supply

*OW1703041994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0401 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Eijiro Hata apologized Thursday for confusion over the supply of rice and assured consumers that there will not be any serious shortage.

Speaking before the House of Councillors' Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Hata said there will not be any "quantitative problem" because the government has secured rice to meet needs until August. Hata was replying to a question by an opposition lawmaker about the mounting public outrage as Japanese rice has disappeared from store shelves and many consumers shun imported rice.

Hata said a total of three million tons of rice is needed for consumption until August and the need will be fulfilled by some 1.2 million tons of domestically grown rice left in stock, 1.7 million tons in imports and 100,000 tons of early

crop rice from this year's harvest. The government will step up efforts to import more rice, he said.

Rengo Plans Forum for Labor Support of Coalition

*OW1703023994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0202 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan's largest trade union confederation said Thursday [17 March] it will set up a consultative forum in early June to discuss policies with and support the ruling coalition.

Akira Yamagishi, president of the eight-million strong Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), told a meeting of Rengo's central committee that the forum "is intended to back the ruling coalition and to develop and establish a political system for changes of governments." He said the forum "will study designs for a broader spectrum of policies."

Yamagishi said Rengo will set up a preparatory panel in early April as a prelude to founding the forum.

On Rengo's support for political parties, Yamagishi said the confederation will not only cooperate with the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ], the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and the Democratic Reform Party (DRP), a political arm of Rengo, but also other parties.

Rengo, founded in November 1989, has backed the governing coalition since Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa took power last August.

Yamagishi has envisioned a future reorganization of Japanese politics with three main political forces—the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), new conservative forces, and liberals. He has reiterated Rengo will back the liberals comprising the SDPJ, the DSP, the DRP, new party Sakigake, the Japan New Party and the more liberal elements of the LDP after the political reorganization.

Yamagishi indicated at the committee meeting that Rengo will shape its own tax reform plan and submit it to the government. The governing coalition has set up a panel to conclude ways of financing tax cuts of some 6 trillion yen in the fiscal 1994 state budget by the end of the current 150-day ordinary Diet session that began January 31.

FTC Orders 15 Paint Makers To Pay Fines

*OW1603093694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0835 GMT
16 Mar 94*

[Text] Tokyo, March 16 KYODO—The Fair Trade Commission (FTC) has ordered 15 paint manufacturers to pay 470 million yen in fines for operating an unauthorized cartel, FTC officials said Wednesday [16 March]. Among the firms fined by the FTC, Atom Chemical Paint Co. was ordered to pay 87 million yen, Hitachi Chemical Co. 70 million yen and Sekisui Jushi Corp. 51 million yen.

According to the FTC, the companies concluded an unauthorized cartel in October 1990 that served as a front for bid-rigging activities and manipulated the price of paint

until December 1991. In December 1992, the FTC ordered the firms to stop the unfair practice.

FTC Orders Penalties for Aerial Survey Firms

OW1703105994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1041 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—The Fair Trade Commission (FTC) ordered 29 aerial survey contractors to pay penalties totaling 790 million yen for bid-rigging practices that it says violated the Antimonopoly Law, commission officials said Thursday [17 March]. The companies include such leading firms as Pasco Corp., Asia Air Survey Co. and Kokusai Kogyo Co.

Pasco and Asia Air Survey Co. were each told to pay 200 million yen, the highest penalty ever brought against a private company for bid-rigging in relation to public works projects.

The total of fines also marks the third highest sought by the FTC in such cases. The highest penalties in a bid-rigging case totaled some 1 billion yen against contractors in Saitama Prefecture, near Tokyo, in 1992.

The FTC said the aerial survey companies, through one Tokyo-based land measurement association, continued prearranged biddings from around 1984 for map production orders placed by the Construction Ministry's Geographical Survey Institute.

The firms also arranged illegal bidding for tenders held by the government and municipal governments for aerial photographic surveys from 1988 to 1992. They reportedly set up intercompany cooperative bodies in several regions to fix successful bidders and contract prices beforehand, the commission said.

In February 1993, the FTC ordered the contractors and association to end bid-rigging practices.

Central Bank Reports Feb Money Supply Rise

OW1703092594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan's benchmark money supply grew 1.6 percent in February on a year-to-year basis, the Bank of Japan said in a preliminary report Thursday [17 March].

The M2 and certificates of deposit (CDs) gained a revised 1.6 percent in January, marking the first growth pace pickup in four months. M2 is cash in circulation plus demand and time deposits.

The broader measure of liquidity, including postal savings, government debts and investment trusts, expanded 3.0 percent in February over a year before, compared with a 3.0 percent rise in January.

Corporate Pretax Profits Drop in Oct-Dec Period

OW1703064294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0606 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—Japan's corporate pretax profits for the October-December quarter slid 6.2 percent from a year before, declining for the 14th straight quarter, the Finance Ministry said Thursday [17 March].

The pretax profits for manufacturing companies fell 16.5 percent, while those for nonmanufacturers increased 3.9 percent, the ministry said.

Combined sales dropped 1.4 percent, suffering the seventh consecutive quarter of decline from year-earlier levels.

Corporate capital investment during the reporting quarter shrank 16.8 percent, for the eighth straight quarterly decline from year-earlier levels.

MITI Official Urges Consensus on Tax Overhaul

OW1703104594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 17 KYODO—A top-ranking Trade Ministry official on Thursday [17 March] called for the ruling coalition to reach a consensus on comprehensive tax reforms by the end of May. In view of administrative and other technical works to be required, agreement around late June, as widely sought, is too late, said the Ministry of International Trade and Industry ministry official, who requested anonymity.

A forum set up by the seven-party coalition is working on tax reforms, including multiyear tax cuts designed to spur domestic demand, to show Japan's commitment to the plan at the Naples summit of the seven industrialized countries in early July.

The official said he has no knowledge on whether Ichiro Ozawa, a coalition key figure, will fly to Washington shortly in search of a breakthrough in the trade framework talks.

Ozawa, secretary general of Shinseito, is said to have a considerable clout in the government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and is believed to have played a major role in last week's settlement of the cellular phone trade dispute between Tokyo and Washington. It is not desirable for men such as Ozawa, who is not the leader of Japan, to play a part in getting the stalled talks moving again, the MITI official said.

North Korea

South Urged To 'Sincerely Come Forth' at Contact

SK1703140694 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Commentary by Chong Pong-kil: "Foot-Dragging Tactic Aimed at Attaining Sinister Purpose"]

[Text] The South side's maneuvers to use the issue of exchanging special envoys as a means to attain its sinister political aims are all the more viciously carried out.

As it has already been known, our side resumed the working-level contact for the exchange of North-South special envoys in accordance with the agreements reached at the DPRK-U.S. contact in New York, and thus made a series of progress in realizing the envoy exchange.

Out of the position to realize the exchange of North-South special envoys at the earliest possible date in a good atmosphere, our side took a magnanimous and momentous step at the sixth working-level contact, taking note of the fact that the South side has expressed understanding of the feasibility of the four just demands our side raised, even though on the whole is short of our expectations. As a result, a bright prospect for the exchange of special envoys was opened for the North and South.

Since then, our side again called on the South side at the recent contact to return to the position of reconciliation and unity and accept our side's just proposal on announcing a joint communique. In addition, our side urged that the two sides should wind up the discussion of working procedures and conclude an agreement on the basis of the North-tabled agreement on the exchange of North-South presidential envoys.

The reason we insisted on announcing the joint communique is because it would be a chance for the two sides to confirm that special envoys would certainly be exchanged. Thus, this would give hope to the fellow countrymen and mark a turning point for North-South relations. Announcing the joint communique would give an opportunity for the two sides to wind up the discussion of working procedures on the envoy exchange at an early date.

At a time when people at home and abroad express concern over the prospect for the envoy exchange, the fact that the North and South, the parties concerned, reaffirm their will for the envoy exchange and agree to exchange special envoys at the earliest possible date would be a good thing, seen from every point of view.

If the South side truly wants to exchange special envoys with us, it is reasonable to show its intention by welcoming and responding to our claim on announcing a joint communique regarding the issue of the exchange of special envoys. Nevertheless, the South side repeatedly made the same old remarks again and opposed our side's proposal.

It recklessly failed to agree with our proposal without a reasonable basis. This proves that it has no will for the exchange of special envoys, and that for it to come forth to the working-level delegates' contact for the exchange of special envoys is only to give the impression it is holding talks with the North.

Even in the discussion of the working procedures, the South side insisted on an unreasonable position, and did not accept principle and important issues such as the issue of defending the principle of national independence, of

concluding the method for the fatherland's reunification, and of promoting great national unity, which is related to the duties of the special envoys.

The principle and important issues that our side put forth in connection with the duties of the special envoys of both sides all embody the three principles of the fatherland's reunification and guarantee the improvement of North-South relations.

The fact the South side did not accept the issue of defending the national independence shows that it will continue to prevent the fatherland's reunification by currying favor with outside forces. Also, not accepting the issue of concluding the method for the fatherland's reunification means to continue division. Moreover, opposing the issue of promoting great national unity is to continue to move toward the road of confrontation, not national reconciliation and unity.

On 15 March, a fellow called the puppet minister of the National Unification Board officially babbled that the working-level delegates' contact would end in failure. This is by no means a coincidence.

Ultimately, this clearly shows that the South Korean authorities do not have the intention to exchange special envoys nor the will to resolve the fatherland's reunification issue through the method of dialogue and negotiations.

The dark intention of the South side not accepting our principle issue was to delay the exchange of special envoys so as to cast a shadow in the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks and plot to harm the fellow countrymen.

The people of the world came to correctly know who wants to achieve the exchange of special envoys and who opposes it, through the betrayal act of the South side, which is moving backward when the exchange of special envoys is at an important occasion of being realized.

It will be good for the South side to contemplate over the grave consequence the maneuver to delay the exchange of special envoys will bring about. Having regrets is always too late.

The South side must not play a double game to prevent the exchange of special envoys, but should sincerely come forth at the next contact. We will carefully watch over the South side's attitude.

South Urged To Accept Proposal on Work Methods
SK1703105894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1044
GMT 17 Mar 94

["Unreasonable Attempt To Block North-South Dialogue"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—Yi Yong-tok, South Korean puppet Unification Board minister, told the press on March 15 that the Panmunjom working-level contact for the exchange of special envoys would "end in failure", according to a radio report from Seoul.

The puppet defence minister, Yi Pyong-Tae, too, openly talked about resuming "Team Spirit" joint military exercises this year when he met with a U.S. undersecretary of defense that day, saying "the exchange of special envoys between the North and the South was unlikely to be realized".

Such ill-boding remarks vividly show that the Kim Yong-sam group has no intention to discuss the pending issues between the North and the South.

The puppets now lay the blame for the failure to make a progress in the working-level contact at the North's door. This is, indeed, an act reminding one of a thief crying "stop thief!"

It is entirely because of the South Korean puppet clique's unjust behavior that the four rounds of working contact held in March failed to get anywhere. The South side objected to the North side's proposal to announce in a joint communique that the sides confirmed again the will for the exchange of special envoys and agreed on their early exchange. It categorically took exception to the North side's suggestion that the questions of observing the principle of national independence, deciding on the way of national reunification and of promoting the great unity of the whole nation be stipulated in the draft agreement with regard to the duty of special envoys.

Their acts of dragging on the working-level contact, while objecting to the North side's principled proposals without any justification and reasons, are nothing but a despicable intrigue to reduce the talks to ostensible and nominal one.

It is not hard to gather that lurking behind such perfidious acts of the puppets is their sinister intention to put the brakes on the third round of DPRK-USA talks at any cost by blocking the progress of the contact for the exchange of special envoys and overpower the North with the help of foreign forces.

The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique must stop its adventurous rash acts of leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to a very dangerous, catastrophic crisis, approach the dialogue with an honest attitude in response to the demand and aspirations of the fellow countrymen and make a bold decision to accept the North side's drastic proposal on working procedures at an early date.

'U.S. Imperialists' Stage Exercise 15 Mar

*SK1703043294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists, on March 15, staged an exercise of returning to the base after dropping bombs in the air above Yongwol and Pyongchang, South Korea, with the mobilization of Japan-based F-15 fighter-bombers and FA-18 pursuit-assault planes, according to military sources.

On the 14th and the 15th, overseas-based KC-135s refueled more than 30 fighter-bombers and assault planes in an air war exercise above Kunsan and Kapyong.

Meanwhile the Kim Yong-sam group staged a war rehearsal on the 15th with the mobilization of many warships, attack helicopters, artillery pieces, tanks and armoured vehicles.

At that time, a "civilian defence training" was under way in Seoul.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets would be well advised to act with discretion, clearly mindful of the grave consequences to be entailed by their reckless belligerent moves increasing tension on the Korean peninsula.

Kim Yong-sam's Call for 'Powerful Police' Decried

*SK1703065094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[**"Last-Ditch Effort To Stay in Power"**—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The traitor Kim Yong-sam showed up at a "graduation ceremony of the police college" on March 14 and fostered fascist suppression, blaring that a "powerful police" must be built up and it must "cope with illegal violent demonstrations," according to a radio report from Seoul.

This is a last-ditch effort of the traitor to suppress and stamp out with "government" power the people's struggle for an end to the "civilian" fascist rule and thus prop up his power on thin ice.

The traitor Kim Yong-sam is now much embarrassed by the situation that has turned unfavourable to him.

The South Korean people are waging a relentless struggle against the treacherous opening of rice market and for the abolition of the fascist "National Security Law." The opposition camp, too, is pointing an accusing finger at the traitor.

At a time when the world public circles including the Amnesty International lifted up their voices condemning the fascist repressive rule and human rights abuses in South Korea, even the United States, his master, urged the abrogation of the notorious "National Security Law," driving him into a sorry plight.

All this is a mortal blow and an ominous symptom for the traitor.

His remarks whipping up fascist suppression are interpreted as a product of consciousness of crisis in the position of a fish out of water.

Daily Says 'Only the Grave Awaits' Kim Yong-sam

*SK1703103294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[**"Only Grave Awaits 'Civilian President'"**—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—Only the grave awaits the traitor Kim Yong-sam, a "civilian president" forsaken and rejected by the people for his anti-national, anti-popular crimes, says NODONG SINMUN in an article today.

The author of the article says:

The traitor Kim Yong-sam and his "civilian" regime are destined to meet a miserable doom. The puppet Kim Young-sam had been a target of hatred among the people before he took the "presidential" seat as a thorough-paced traitor and turncoat. When the traitor chose to live under the same roof with military blackguards, openly kissing them with the patronage and backing of the United States, his master, people of all walks of life lifted up voices of condemnation, branding him as a power-thirsty shyster, betrayer and political prostitute. At the time of "presidential elections" people who account for nearly 20 percent of the total number of electors boycotted voting to express their opposition to Kim Yong-sam. This virtually means that more than two thirds of the population voted against him. Thus, the Kim Yong-sam puppet regime had a gloomy future from the first step as it came into being amidst opposition and rejection by an overwhelming majority of the people.

The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique also took upon itself a timebomb by getting into the same boat with the preceding military dictators. For the traitor Kim Yong-sam to join hands with the military dictatorial forces denounced by the people was an act of turning his back on the people, and for him to promise those forces to "protect" them after his assumption of office was an unpardonable criminal act.

After putting up the "civilian" signboard the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique honored its commitment to the preceding military dictatorial forces, while breaking all his "promises" to the people. That is why the South Korean people view "in the same light" Chun Doo hwan- No Tae-u clique, a target of purge and punishment, and the traitor Kim Yong-sam who is zealously defending them.

The traitor's much-touted, fine-sounding "civilian politics" has punctured. It is as clear as noonday what fate will befall him.

Kim Yong-sam Called 'Civilian-Veiled Fascist'

SK1703103494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010
GMT 17 Mar 94

[["Civilian" Dictator Vomits Poison"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The traitor Kim Yong-sam showed up at a "graduation ceremony of the police college" a few days ago and called for the buildup of a "powerful police", contending that "any violation of order", not to speak of "a violent demonstration", could not be justified and tolerated under the "civilian government".

Branding this as an outburst of the "civilian"-veiled fascist revealing his sinister intention to tighten the repressive rule, a news analyst of NODONG SINMUN today says:

Dictatorship is incompatible with democracy. It is shameful of the puppets to talk about "civilian government" and "democracy" while wielding the sword of dictatorship.

The ever more outrageous and vicious suppression by the puppets is hysterics of those who are floundering in the crisis of a fish out of water, rejected and denounced by the people.

Sword-brandishing, however, can never be a means of prolonging life. The struggle of the South Korean people for independence, democracy, reunification and the vital rights is justifiable. It cannot be criminalized under any circumstances.

To suppress this struggle by branding it as "illegal" is a lawless violence and an unpardonable fascist outrage. The harsher the fascist suppression by the puppets, the stronger the resistance of the people.

The Kim Yong-sam fascist clique had better act with discretion.

ROK Believers Reportedly 'Revere' Kim Il-song

SK1703104394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006
GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—South Korean believers of Taejonggyo worshipping Tangun deeply revere the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, according to the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation.

A believer Yi Se-chun in Kyongsan, North Kyongsang Province, told his colleagues after a mass on the day of the founding of Taejonggyo:

"Historians of the North, encouraged by the instructions of President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Kim Chong-il, proved that Tangun was not a legendary mythical being but a real person, the founder of Kojoson (ancient Korea). So, the desire of the believers of Taejonggyo has been realised and it has been demonstrated worldwide that our nation is a resourceful, homogeneous nation with a history spanning 5,000 years."

Agreeing with him, a believer Choe Sun-kyo said:

"We, believers of Taejonggyo, must revere them as the leaders of Tangun's Korea. Only when we hold them in high esteem, is it possible to glorify the history of our nation and guarantee a bright future of the reunified country and the restored nation."

Pleased that the tomb of Tangun is now being reconstructed, a believer Yu Pae-sun said:

"When the country is reunified, let us go to the North before anyone else to express thanks to President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Kim Chong-il, the leaders of the

Korean nation peerless in the 5,000 year long history, and add lustre to Tangun's Korea, remaining faithful to them."

South Allowing in Japan's 'Mass Culture' Decried

*SK1703052094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[**"Another Flunkeyist Treachery"**—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities recently announced a "policy" of introducing "mass culture" of Japan stage by stage from June and are advertising it as a "policy" pursuant to the trend of "internationalization" and "opening."

Commenting on this, MINJU CHOSON today says the Kim Yong-sam group is committing another flunkeyist treachery by scheming to fling open the door wider to the corrupt culture of Japan this year and turn society into a dark sphere where Japanese fashion and Japanese way of life will hold sway.

The news analyst says:

The decadent American ideologies and culture and the corrupt culture of the Japanese reactionaries have made their way into South Korea to paralyze the consciousness of the people and degenerate society.

When more immoral ideologies and culture flood into South Korea where people and society are already corrupt and ailing with the infiltration of Japan's reactionary culture, the aftereffects will be monstrous.

If the South Korean puppets massively introduce Japanese culture under the cloak of "internationalisation" and "opening," South Korea will, no doubt, become more dependent on Japan not only in politics and economy but in culture as well. Unpardonable is the treachery of the Kim Yong-sam group which is trying to prolong its remaining days with the support of its masters at the expense of the interests of the nation, fawning upon and submitting to foreign forces.

Chongnyon Groups Denounce ROK Waste Dumping

*SK1703110994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Tokyo, March 15 (KNS-KCNA) [dateline as received]—The leading officials of organisations under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) released statements denouncing criminal dumping of nuclear waste by the South Korean authorities.

Om Chang-pom, chief director of the Federation of Korean Traders and Industrialists in Japan, charged that the Kim Yong-sam clique which has dumped radioactive substances into the sea, ignoring the international convention totally banning it, is, indeed, a group of savages who have no idea of the nation and international law.

He urged the Kim Yong-sam clique to immediately stop seeking confrontation and division in conspiracy with outside forces, scrap the "National Security Law," an

anti-reunification law, and open to the public the amount of the nuclear waste they have already dumped into the sea, its kinds and the dumping places and apologize to the nation.

The chairman of the League of Korean Youth in Japan, Pak Ku-ho, said that the grave anti-national, anti-human criminal act committed by the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique is directly linked with the nuclear weapon development that has been promoted in secrecy and has already reached a dangerous stage in South Korea.

"The purpose sought by the Kim Yong-sam group in its malicious anti-DPRK smear campaign over the fictitious 'nuclear issue of the North' is to divert the attention of the people at home and abroad to the North and then hasten its nuclear weapon development," he emphasized.

So Cha-yon, chairwoman of the Democratic Union of Korean Women in Japan, Pak Yong-kon, chairman of the Association of Korean Social Scientists in Japan, and Kim Chong-su, chairman of the Association of Koreans in Japan for Peaceful Reunification, also denounced the nuclear waste dumping by the Kim Yong-sam group as a towering crime against the nation and mankind.

Film Show Marks DPRK-Russian Cooperation

*SK1703042594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0406
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—A film show took place here Wednesday on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between the DPRK and the Russian Federation.

Invited there were Yuriy Fadeyev, Russian ambassador to Korea, and embassy officials.

Present there together with working people in the city were Yi Pong-hui, vice-chairman of the DPRK Radio and TV Broadcasting Committee and chairman of the Korea-Russia Friendship Association, and other officials concerned.

The participants saw a feature film "Last Way of a Poet".

Foreign Papers Carry Kim Chong-il Works

*SK1703112194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—"Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable," a famous work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, was carried by the Tunisian paper AL SABAH and the Nepalese paper MAJADUR KISSAN.

The Belarus paper VPERYOD carried "1. The Origin of the Chuche Idea" and "2. The Philosophical Principle of the Chuche Idea" of his work "On the Chuche Idea," together with his portrait, and the Egyptian paper al siyassi carried "2. The validity of the general line of our party

concerning the construction of socialism and communism" of "The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party."

Koreans in Canada Group Issues Statement

*SK1703023094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2157
GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 16 (KCNA)—The regional headquarters of Koreans in Canada of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) in a recent statement urged the United States to immediately withdraw the nuclear weapons of its forces in South Korea and solve the "nuclear issue" through dialogue with the DPRK.

The statement demanded that the United States no longer obstruct the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the realization of the nation's desire to peacefully reunify the country divided into North and South.

Committee Announces SPA To Convene 6 Apr

*SK1603225494 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2102 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] The decision of the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) on the convention of the session of the DPRK SPA:

The DPRK SPA Standing Committee decides as follows: The seventh session of the Ninth DPRK SPA will be convened in Pyongyang on 6 April 1994.

[Signed] The DPRK SPA Standing Committee
[Dated] 16 March 1994, Pyongyang

Deputies Told To Register 4-5 Apr

*SK1603225694 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 2103 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] The public announcement on the convention of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly (SPA):

The DPRK SPA Standing committee informs the SPA deputies that it will convene the seventh session of the Ninth DPRK SPA in Pyongyang on 6 April 1994. The registration of the deputies will take place at Mansudae Assembly Hall between 4 and 5 April.

[Signed] The DPRK SPA Standing Committee
[Dated] 16 March 1994, Pyongyang

Kim Chong-il Sends Birthday Table to Doctor

*SK1703115194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a sixtieth birthday table to Mun Kuk-chong, deputy director of the hospital with Comrade Chong Man-sok as its director.

Over the past thirty odd years he has cured many people by traumatic and orthopedic treatment and in this course unsparingly donated his blood, flesh and bones.

He has trained many medical workers, including five associate doctors, and wrote more than sixty medical books and university textbooks to help develop the medical science of the country.

He became a merited doctor in 1985 and later was awarded the honorary title of People's Doctor and academic degrees of doctor of medicine and assistant professor.

Seminar Marks Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Work

*SK1703050894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—A national seminar was held at the People's Palace of Culture here Wednesday to mark the 30th anniversary of the publication of the famous work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il "Position and Role of the County in Socialist Construction".

Present at the seminar were Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and Vice-President Yi Chong-ok, Secretary of the WPK Central Committee Kim Chung-nin, Vice-Premier of the Administration Council Chang Chol, and other officials concerned and personnel of party cadres training organs, men of science, education and the press.

At the seminar the speakers said the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in his work proved the validity and truthfulness of the idea of the great leader President Kim Il-song on the position and role of the county in socialist construction with his lucid logic and persuasive power and further developed it in depth with his profound, unique idea and new scientific and theoretical propositions.

The dear leader, they noted, put it forward as a strategic task that should certainly be carried out by a working-class party and state after the establishment of the socialist system to clear away the differences between town and country, between the working class and peasantry by raising the role of the county as a regional base, and made clear the revolutionary essence and importance of the question of raising the role of the county.

They said the work that gives a profound, unique scientific explanation of the role of the county as a comprehensive unit of developing the local economy and as a base of economic links between town and country is a highly important one in which the dear leader developed in depth the theory of socialist construction from a new angle with his rare ideological and theoretical wisdom.

The speakers pointed out that the dear leader's work is a highly important work that developed the theory of socialist construction because, by giving a scientific exposition of the question of raising the position and role of the county in the socialist rural construction, it provides a firm guideline in leading the socialist rural construction and socialist construction as a whole along a straight road to victory.

They said the idea of the regional base expounded in the work indicates the way of bringing earlier the complete victory of socialism and making the popular masses masters of the state and society by raising the role of the county.

They explained and proved that to strengthen economic links between town and country as expounded in the work is the mighty way of finally solving the rural question and dynamically accelerating the building of socialism and communism.

Gymnastics Performed on Anniversary of Theses

*SK1703111994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023
GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, March 17 (KCNA)—The mass gymnastic display "Great Victory of Rural Theses" had been performed in Pyongyang before full houses from early March to the middle of the month on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the publication of the rural theses.

10 000 school youths and children performed the gymnastic display three times a day at the Grand Pyongyang Indoor Stadium.

They epically delineated the undying leadership exploits of the great leader President Kim Il-song, who unfolded a great programme of socialist rural construction and set a brilliant example in the solution of the rural question, and the happy life of farmers.

The display of gymnastic exercises, dances and acrobatics against magic lantern style background was highly acclaimed by the spectators for its high ideological and artistic level and refined skill of performers and well-harmonized ensemble.

The display leading the spectators to ecstasies was produced by the creative group of the mass gymnastic display.

It was formed in November 1971. It is now playing a big role in the development of the *chuche*-based gymnastic art of Korea.

The group consisting of the creation and production, gymnastic exercise, background, music and other specialized creative sections, has hundreds of competent creators including more than 40 people's and merited sportsmen and sportswomen.

It produced scores of monumental works in the past.

The mass gymnastic displays "Chollima Korea", "Song of Korea", "People Sing of the Leader", "Singlehearted Unity" and other works won the people's prize and are widely known to the world as comprehensive sports art consisting of courageous, powerful and lively gymnastic movements, beautiful rhythms, plastic etude combining collective harmony well with individual skills and organic harmonisation of gymnastic ground, background and music.

The group produces and disseminates gymnastic works to be performed in all parts of the country. And it organises

training courses and provincial contests of mass gymnastic display every year, thus playing a big role in improving the physical conditions of children and students and working people.

In the past, it sent experts to more than 40 Asian, African and Latin American countries on over 90 occasions and helped in the creation of mass gymnastic displays.

South Korea

IAEA: DPRK Nuclear Inspection 'Unsatisfactory'

*SK1703001494 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
2317 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] Following inspection of North Korea, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has concluded that it cannot exclude the possibility of additional plutonium production in North Korea and has decided to work out sanction measures against North Korea by convening a special Board of Governors meeting on 21 March.

Correspondent Cha Man-sun reports from Vienna:

[Begin Cha recording] The IAEA has concluded that the recent inspection of North Korea is unsatisfactory [*manjok suropchi motada*].

In an unofficial Board of Governors meeting urgently convened yesterday [16 March], Director-General Hans Blix revealed that North Korea refused to allow the inspection team to conduct various activities, including the extraction of sample materials from the radiochemical laboratory which is a core target of the current inspection. Thus, the IAEA director-general said that the IAEA could not examine whether or not nuclear material was diverted for other purposes and that the possibility of additional plutonium production in North Korea cannot be excluded.

During this inspection, North Korea refused any extraction by the the inspection team of sample material from the plutonium refining facility. In addition, it refused to allow inspection activities surveying (the ?uniformity) of radioactivity in many parts of the radiochemical laboratory. Therefore, the suspicion of additional plutonium production by North Korea has been raised.

The IAEA concluded that North Korea's breaking of the agreement it previously made by refusing inspections of its core facilities is a serious situation. Thus, the IAEA decided to convene a special Board of Governors meeting on 21 March with the consent of member states of the Board of Governors.

At the special Board of Governors meeting on 21 March, the IAEA will urge North Korea to sincerely fulfill the nuclear accords, will adopt a resolution on sanctions against North Korea, and will report the inspection result to the UN Security Council. [end recording]

Ministry Remarks on DPRK's 'Uncooperative Actions'

*SK1703022794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0213 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government expressed "deep concern and regrets" Thursday over North Korea's refusal to allow full nuclear inspections and called attention to the special board meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) slated for March 21.

"The government cannot but express deep concern and regrets at the results that are due from North Korea's uncooperative actions," Foreign Ministry spokesman Chang Ki-ho said in a statement, referring to the IAEA announcement in Vienna that its inspection activities in North Korea were restricted.

The agency further said it could not verify that North Korea had not diverted nuclear material for non-peaceful purposes.

"The government urges that the IAEA inspections of unfulfilled parts be carried out immediately without delay," Chang said. "We will watch closely the decision by the IAEA special board of governors meeting."

Seoul also called on Pyongyang to be sincere in talks on exchanging envoys, voicing hope that the nuclear issue would be discussed substantively through the exchange.

"The government reconfirms (there is) no change in its original stance that the IAEA inspections of North Korean nuclear facilities must conclude successfully and that the inter-Korean special envoy exchange for solution of the nuclear problem must be implemented before the third round of North Korea-U.S. dialogue," Chang said.

Official: Continuity of Safeguards Not Problem

*SK1703051194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0502 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) failed to verify that North Korea had not diverted nuclear material, but most likely kept alive the continuous flow of inspections, a Foreign Ministry official said here Thursday.

"The IAEA did not say anything specific on that part," Ham Myong-chol, director-general of the International Organizations Bureau, said when asked if IAEA safeguards in North Korea had been compromised.

"The agency only concluded that it could not verify the diversion, but it seems that there wasn't a problem on that part (continuity of safeguards) of the issue," he said.

If true, the international community would still have room for diplomatic negotiations with North Korea on resolving the inspection issue before taking it to the Security Council for punitive measures.

The IAEA issued a statement from its Vienna headquarters that its inspectors were not allowed full access to the North Korean radiochemical laboratory, regarded by the agency

as a nuclear reprocessing plant and the key part of Pyongyang's covert weapons program.

The U.N. agency has decided to convene a special Board of Governors meeting on March 21.

Ham said the inspectors saw all but a few important parts of the radiochemical laboratory. "The question of diversion will be the key issue at the March 21 meeting," he said.

The results of the meeting will be reported automatically to the U.N. Security Council, which alone must decide on whether to intervene, Ham said.

The IAEA board is expected to adopt a resolution expressing concern and regret over the restricted inspections and demanding immediate access to relevant areas, he said.

'Strong Measures' Considered on Nuclear Issue

*SK1703094494 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
0900 GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] The government is in the process of actively considering taking strong measures by mobilizing all possible means, including handing this issue over to the UN Security Council and imposing sanctions on North Korea, if North Korea does not respond to an additional inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the South-North exchange of special envoys.

In a news conference on the afternoon of 17 March, Kim Sam-hun, nuclear ambassador of the Foreign Ministry, revealed such a policy by saying that the government has strong doubts on whether it should continue its dialogue efforts with North Korea and if that is possible at all. He also stated that now is the time to take all possible proper steps.

In connection with resolving North Korea's nuclear issue, he said that the government's policy on the North Korean nuclear issue maintained the basic framework of peaceful resolution through dialogue in the past. However, the government's policy revealed today is very noteworthy because it hints that the government's policy on North Korea will turn to strong measures, including sanctions.

Policy 'To Cope Resolutely' With DPRK Studied

*SK1703115894 Seoul YONHAP in English 1149 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government is reviewing a policy to cope resolutely with North Korea unless Pyongyang agrees to an additional inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and to carry out the proposed inter-Korean exchange of special envoys.

Ambassador for Nuclear Affairs Kim Sam-hun told a press conference Thursday afternoon, "Now is a time when we should mobilize all possible means." He said his government has been led to doubt if the government should or can carry on efforts to resolve the nuclear issue through

dialogue. "We cannot fulfill what have been agreed on at this time when North Korea has not kept agreed matters," Ambassador Kim said. He thus hinted that the third-round U.S.-North Korea high-level talks could be put off indefinitely and the '94 Team Spirit exercise carried out.

Kim said North Korea has expressly violated the agreement it reached with the IAEA on last Feb. 15 and another it made with the United States on Feb. 25.

Saying that a final decision would depend on the outcomes of the next inter-Korean working-level contact slated for March 19 and a special IAEA Board of Governors meeting on March 21, the ambassador said, however, "The patience of the international community let alone our government's has almost exhausted."

Regarding the issue of Patriot missiles, he said that no final decision has been made yet on the matter. "But, if it becomes impossible to resolve the nuclear issue through dialogue, we don't see any reason why we should delay their deployment in Korea especially because the Patriots are basically defensive weapons," Kim said.

He said that if and when the special IAEA Board of Governors meeting refers the North Korean nuclear issue to the United Nations Security Council, the Seoul government would respect and follow the decision. "At this moment, our government is really tired and feels the strong skepticism if we should continue to regard North Korea as the other side in dialogue," Kim said.

ROK, U.S., IAEA Said 'in Limbo' on DPRK Issue

*SK1703033794 Seoul YONHAP in English 0301 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[By Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—Seoul, Washington and Vienna were all in limbo Thursday, faced with having to make a crucial political decision within days on the North Korean nuclear row.

The decision due on March 21 will determine whether the international community continues to pursue peaceful dialogue with North Korea or seeks punitive measures through the UN Security Council.

While the likelihood of the latter option is higher now, the inclination in Seoul is still toward dialogue.

The Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) wasted no time in briefing its board of governors on the status of two-week inspections in North Korea that ended Tuesday. IAEA inspectors hurried back to Vienna and reported directly to Director-General Hans Blix, who immediately briefed the governor states.

A statement issued after the briefing said "important measures" agreed between the agency and North Korea had not been carried out at the radiochemical laboratory in Yongbyon, widely regarded as a reprocessing plant and the core of Pyongyang's suspected nuclear program.

The IAEA went to North Korea to verify that the stalinist state had not diverted nuclear material for non-peaceful uses since the last visit in August, but after the fortnight of inspections, the agency ruled it "was not in a position to verify."

In a wild twist, the North Korean nuclear situation has gone back beyond the starting point—March 12 last year when Pyongyang announced its withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Before then, at least, the seals on equipment at the radiochemical laboratory were intact and the IAEA had full access to all of North Korea's seven declared sites including this lab.

It's becoming clearer by the day that Pyongyang is pressing Washington to hold the promised third round of high-level dialogue while giving the bare minimum in return.

Seoul officials say this is why North Korea allowed something approaching—but not quite—full IAEA inspections and why Pyongyang keeps alive the inter-Korean dialogue while blocking progress on an envoy exchange, one precondition to the high-level talks.

The IAEA convenes a special board of governors meeting next Monday. The likelihood of the agency declaring a break in North Korean safeguards is low because the political consequences would be too heavy.

Such a declaration would automatically send the issue to the UN Security Council and start a process leading up to gradual economic sanctions.

Officials here say the decision is entirely up to the IAEA, but the agency won't be able to ignore the views of Seoul and Washington, which still see room for negotiation.

Seoul is expected to continue working-level dialogue with Pyongyang on exchanging envoys, helping fulfill this precondition.

Washington is likely to contact Pyongyang and press for further IAEA negotiations on checking the restricted installations so that they can go ahead with the high-level meeting, even if it is postponed to after March 21.

Minister, Wisner on Countermeasures for DPRK

*SK1703070194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0636 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu and U.S. Undersecretary of Defense Frank Wisner discussed initiating a new phase of countermeasures in the North Korean nuclear dispute, Foreign Ministry officials said Thursday.

Wisner, in Seoul since Monday, met with Han for an hour-long talk to evaluate the current crisis over nuclear inspections in the North and stalled inter-Korean dialogue, said Chang Chae-yong, director-general of the American Affairs Bureau.

The two officials discussed what to expect next—either North Korea meeting the South Korean and U.S. demands or continuing with its present attitude of refusal, he said.

In case of the latter, Han and Wisner agreed their countries may need to enter into a new phase of countermeasures.

"Countermeasures are under preparation for such an event," Chang said.

Asked whether they talked about deployment of Patriot missiles and resuming this year's South Korea-U.S. joint military drill "Team Spirit," Chang indirectly said yes by adding, "of course, issues related to security in light of the present situation were addressed."

Newspapers React to 16 Mar ROK-DPRK Talks

SK1703064994

[Editorial Report] Seoul vernacular newspapers on 17 March react to the seventh South-North working-level contact to exchange special envoys which was held at Panmunjom yesterday.

The moderate TONG-A ILBO, the conservative CHOSON ILBO, the moderate HANGUK ILBO, and the moderate CHUNGANG ILBO all carry 800-word editorials on page 3, pointing out that the North side's insincere attitude resulted in the lack of results in the 16 March inter-Korean contact. The CHOSON ILBO editorial, in particular, urges the government to come up with a new long-term policy on North Korea, noting that "we have lost the initiative in talks because our North Korean policy has no basis or principle."

CHOSON ILBO also carries a 900-word article by reporter An Hui-chang on page 3 which cites the analysis of observers that "North Korea's strategy is to link the issue of allowing additional inspections with the issue of holding the third-round North Korean-U.S. talks, because it believes that assuming a rigid attitude and utilizing the inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency as an ace card will result in the United States again acceding to negotiations." Meanwhile, a 1,200 word article by Ku Pon-yong on page 4 in the pro-government SEOUL SINMUN attributes North Korea's "inactive attitude" on the envoy exchange to its concern that this will lead to a rapid improvement in South-North relations, which may then lead to popular unrest in North Korea where "systemic crisis caused by serious economic difficulties" exists. This article also points out that North Korea's insistence on direct negotiations with the United States aims to effect improved relations with the United States while gaining economic aid from it, and also serves to "estrangle the ROK from the United States."

Chong Pyong-chin's 1,000-word article in the moderate HANGUK ILBO predicts that the voices of hardliners in the South Korean Government will likely increase with the lack of progress in the last inter-Korean working-level contact. The article says people are suspicious that "North Korea and the United States agreed on terms that the public is unaware of before announcing their agreement on

25 February" and that "the United States is conversely using the 'North Korean card' against the ROK." The article adds that these reasons were cited by certain sections of the government in their "insistence" on reviewing ROK-U.S. relations.

Kang Tae-ho's 1,000-word article in the left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN criticizes both the South and the North for the lack of progress in their working-level contacts. Remarking on the South side's "active and offensive" attitude and the North side's "inactive and defensive" posture in the dialogue, the article points out the South's "undesirable attitude of provoking the North by mentioning the third round of North Korean-U.S. talks." The article anticipates that South and North Korea will also fail to reach agreement in the next contact slated for 19 March, and that South and North Korea will probably enter again into "a phase of harsh confrontation" so that talk of the "uselessness of dialogue" abounds in South Korea, North Korea, and the United States.

Reporter An Song-ki of the CHUNGANG ILBO simply argues in a 900-word article on page 5 that North Korea is insisting on the announcement of a joint South-North communique because it intends to "shift the responsibility to South Korea and the United States if the third round of North Korean-U.S. talks fail."

DPRK To Designate Second Free Economic Zone

SK1703013494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0050 GMT
17 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—North Korea has reportedly made an unofficial decision to designate the northwestern coast from Sinuiju to Nampo as its second free economic zone.

Pyongyang earlier sent officials to study China's coastal economic zones, who came to realize that the current Najin-Sonbong free trade zone on the northeastern coast was too regionally closed and less attractive to foreign investors due to insufficient infrastructure, according to a report by the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (Kotra) representative in Beijing.

Instead, the North Koreans are expected to designate the northwestern coast between Nampo and Sinuiju, which is adjacent to China, as a new economic zone.

North Korea has already started moving residents near the Amnok River and Sinuiju and is preparing to build a railway linking the far Western coastal city with Pyongyang.

The Stalinist country is expected to announce the opening of the two port cities on Sept. 9, timed with its 46th anniversary.

Once Sinuiju and Nampo are named a free economic zone, the area is likely to draw more foreign investment than the Najin-Sonbong zone in the initial stage, Kotra officials said.

The Najin-Sonbong zone is expected to be developed as a center for export-oriented industry and entrepot trade, while the Sinuiju-Nampo area will be promoted as a complex for light industry, the officials said.

Defector Said To Disclose DPRK Spy Network

SK1703094594 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 17 Mar 94 p 7

[By reporter Yi Hyok-chae]

[Text] There are well-known spy organizations in the world, such as the U.S. CIA, the former Soviet Union's KGB, Israel's Mossad, and Britain's MI6. However, it is the North Korean spy organization that can do us direct harm.

President Kim Yong-sam, in a recent meeting with Yi Ki-taek, representative of the opposition Democratic Party, said that North Korea has continued to send its spies to the South. The North Korean spy organization is often called "Office Complex No. 3." Mr. An Myong-chin, former North Korean spy who defected to the South crossing the DMZ last September, disclosed the status of the North Korean spy organization in the April issue of Japanese monthly THIS IS YOMIURI.

The North Korean spy training institute has changed its name several times. It was called Kumgang School when it was established in 1945, Kumsong Political and Military School in the mid-sixties, Political School Directly Belonging to the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee in the eighties, and Kim Chong-il Political and Military College in January 1992. The spy training school is located in the Yongsong District in Pyongyang, a mountainous area in the outskirts of Pyongyang. The school is under the WPK Operations Department, which specializes in southward operations. The school site covers an area of a 10 km radius. Kim Hyon-hui, the terrorist who blasted the Korean airliner, was also trained in this school. To become a student of this school, one has to have a clean record and a good background, good health, and a good brain. There are about 400 trainers.

After graduation, the students are attached to the Operations Department (headed by O Kuk-yol), Social and Cultural Department (head unknown), the Reunification Front Department (headed by Kang Chu-il), or the External Information Investigation Department—commonly called the Investigation Department—(headed by Kwon Hui-kyong). All these departments are under the WPK. Of these, the Operations, Social and Cultural, and Reunification Front Departments are charged with southward operations. Spies attached to the Operations Department take the role of guiding other spies when they infiltrate the ROK through the DMZ, or sometimes they themselves infiltrate the South. The task of the Social and Cultural Department is to plant long-term permanent spies or intelligence organizations in the ROK. The role of the Reunification Front Department is to conduct open activities, such as the inter-Korean dialogue.

The Investigation Department is charged with overseas clandestine operations [haewoe kongjak]. Those from the spy training institute's branch schools are mostly assigned to these operations. Branch schools are called differently in each district, such as Kumgangsan District, Myohyangsan District, Chilbosan District. Kim Hyon-hui received his Investigation Department training in the Myohyangsan District branch school for one year beginning in 1981. The spy training institute, currently called Kim Chong-il Political and Military College, operates a model town—also under the Social and Cultural Department—where trainees can accustom themselves to the living environment of the South.

The trainees numbered 100 in 1945 when the training institute was first established, 450 in the eighties, and 300 in 1989, showing a considerable change between periods. The training period was one year initially. It was increased to three and four years, and then fixed at five years since 1991 because of the requirement for more sophisticated spy techniques with the passage of time.

Spy training, which begins at 0600 and ends at 2200, is harsh and varied, covering areas such as blasting, swimming, diving, parachuting, infiltration, abduction, martial arts, communications, and driving. In the case of shooting, the trainee is trained to shoot at a target from the front, the rear, and while running after it to ensure that the bullet hits the target under any conditions. Trainees learn to use various guns, such as Chinese, Russian, Czech, U.S., and Canadian guns. Trainees sometimes concentrate solely on shooting training for a month, and have to shoot about 25,000 bullets before graduation. Trainees are trained to infiltrate into the ROK; therefore, they have to learn thoroughly about the life in the ROK. For this, there is an 8-km-long miniature model town depicting the ROK landscape. There is a street with a restaurant, coffee shop, supermarket, stationery store, and movie theater. Traffic signals and pedestrian crossings are the same as those in Seoul. There is a subway and a bus terminal. The trainees buy things with South Korean money and see movies here and learn about life in the South. Mr. An, who defected to the South, testified that the subway and the bus terminal in Seoul are exactly the same as those in the model town.

Mr. An saw ROK movies and read newspapers in the model town. As for newspapers, CHOSON ILBO and TONG-A ILBO are delivered three days after they are published.

Mr. An was assigned to the "715 liaison office" and went through infiltration training twice, going as far as 2 km south of the DMZ and returning to the training base. The training's objective was to check the ROK Army's guard and develop infiltration routes. The training was mainly conducted at night. Mr. An said that he had heard from his trainer that 200 to 300 of the 1,000 North Korean spies have infiltrated South Korea.

U.S. Trade Offensive Against World Denounced

SK1703052694 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 17 Mar 94 p 3

[Editorial: "Rash U.S. Trade Offensive—Application of Antimonopoly Act to Foreign Countries Hampers World Trade"]

[Text] The U.S. attitude in handling international issues has lost prudence and is now dashing toward a dangerous aspect. No one can dare confront the United States politically or militarily after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Economic relations issues are not simple because the forces that retain enough power to resist the United States economically still remain and because the stronghold in economy is economic power, just as the last stronghold in international politics is military power. These forces are none other than the European Union and Asian countries. The United States' economic offensive is now focused on the Asian region, including Japan. The weight of U.S. trade with Asia is greater than with Europe. In particular, there is a great trade U.S.-Japanese trade imbalance. This is precisely the very important reason for the United States to justify its offensive.

It was revealed that the United States pressured Japan to drastically relax its restrictions after it invoked the Super 301 trade law—defying public opinion of the world. In addition, a "rumor" that the United States will apply its domestic Anti-Monopoly Act to overseas countries spread. We have suspicions about the true intention of the U.S. indiscriminate offensive. We cannot but make precautions against consequences arising from such an offensive. The U.S. demand for Japan's relaxation of restrictions for 45 items includes some items that infringe upon Japanese sovereignty. In other words, this demand includes such requests as establishment of a third-party inspection organization independent from the government and participation of foreigners in examining relaxation of restrictions. Even the order for expanding facilities of airport storage facilities and for lowering the airport utility rate is included in the request. One can hardly judge whether this is a demand to ease trade barriers or an act to interfere in the administration of other countries.

The U.S. policy to apply the Anti-Monopoly Act overseas, which was put forward with "a new bayonet," is a retaliatory act that has lost reason. It was noted that the United States is going to apply this law so it affects not only the U.S. markets, but also U.S. exports. Based on a literal interpretation, it can be noted that all organizations that produce commodities that are not competitive belong in this category. For example, large business groups in the ROK must be immediately dissolved if they want to continue trading with the United States. We do not mean that we want to protect monopolizing acts of large business groups, but we wonder if such a reorganization of world trade is possible. Are U.S. business groups fully prepared for this? The U.S. act means that the United States will lecture on antimonopoly and will punish monopolies, while actually building barriers for its own monopolies in domains of various services and intellectual properties and collecting royalties on its monopolized sale.

The effort to establish world trade through transactions based on fair competition is a different issue from the U.S. act of enforcing its domestic order onto the world. Frankly speaking, we feel a great sense of danger and threat regarding the U.S. intention to reorganize the world into a "U.S.-style." When the Super 301 trade law was invoked,

THE NEW YORK TIMES published prudent advice to Clinton that efforts to reduce domestic consumption should be made first, instead of adhering to an indiscriminate offensive overseas, to eliminate deficits in U.S. trade with Japan. It should be deservedly coped with if Japan and other countries repeatedly carry out unfair acts, including monopoly. Means and method, however, should not be decided on the basis of a U.S. yardstick. Some unreasonable steps that the United States has recently taken are regarded merely as acts to cause trade disputes rather than cause an increase in trade.

U.S. Consulate Criticized for Not Paying Rent

*SK1703100294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0949 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Pusan, March 17 (YONHAP)—As the American Consulate and the American Center here have been unduly using a state-owned building without paying rent, public voices are rising that the American authorities should pay back rent and return the building to Korea. Public criticism is directed also to the arbitrary expansion by the consulate of the first and third floors of the three-story building without obtaining permission from Pusan municipal authorities.

On Wednesday the consulate authorities even prevented Pusan Chung-ku Ward officials trying to look into the illegal floor space expansion from entering the building on the ground that they had come without giving an advance notice. The building, originally owned by a Japanese co. in 1919, was used by U.S. occupation forces upon national liberation and later by the American Consulate beginning September 1948 upon the inauguration of the Korean Government.

In 1970 the government had the Office of National Tax Administration own the building. The ownership of the building was turned over to the Chung-ku Ward of Pusan in 1983. However, the government failed to collect rent from or even conclude any lease agreement with the consulate on the excuse of special relationship between Korea and the United States. Chung-ku Ward officials say that the unauthorized expansion of the floor space is definitely a violation of the construction law, but they cannot take any action against it any longer because the three-year period of prescription expired long before.

Faced with the mounting public criticism, the American Consulate and Center plan to move to elsewhere. Consul Edward Kloth of the consulate called at the Pusan Chamber of Commerce and Industry on last March 11 and, while saying he would like to move their offices to elsewhere, inquired about rent and other conditions of the chamber and nearby commercial buildings.

DLP Delegates To Visit China Last Half of 1994

*SK1703101694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0744 GMT
17 Mar 94*

[Text] Seoul, March 17 (YONHAP)—The chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, Kim Chong-pil, will visit

China in the second half of this year at the invitation of the Chinese Communist Party, preceded by DLP Secretary-general Mun Chong-su, who may travel to Beijing as early as April.

DLP Deputy Secretary-general Cho Pu-yong met with the deputy head of the International Liaison Department of the Chinese Communist Party, Zhu Shanqing, on Thursday here to discuss expanding cooperation and exchanges. At the working-level meeting, the two sides

agreed that the DLP will send a five- to seven-member mission led by Secretary-general Mun to China as early as April.

But DLP Chairman Kim's visit to Beijing, which was scheduled for the first half of the year, has been postponed to the second half because President Kim Yong-sam will go to China soon.

In return for Mun's visit to China, Beijing will send a high-level delegation to Seoul headed by a party Politburo member or cabinet minister.

Burma

SRV Ethnic Minorities Minister Visits

*BK1503145694 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Mar 94*

[Text] At the invitation of Lieutenant General Maung Thint, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and minister of progress of border areas and national races and development affairs, a Vietnamese delegation led by Hoang Duc Nghi, minister and chairman of the State Commission for Ethnic Minorities and Mountain Region of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, arrived in Yangon [Rangoon] by air this evening.

Calls on Development Minister

*BK1603160894 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] A Vietnamese delegation led by Mr. Hoang Duc Nghi, minister and chairman of State Commission for Ethnic Minorities and Mountain Region of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, called on Lieutenant General Maung Thint, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and minister of progress of border areas and national races and development affairs, at the latter's office at 0945 this morning.

At the meeting, they cordially and frankly exchanged views on matters relating to development activities of ethnic minorities in Myanmar [Burma] and Vietnam, narcotics suppression, crop substitution and income substitution work.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Sabah Chief Minister Announces Resignation

BK1703083494 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan today resigned as Sabah chief minister, a post he has held since 1985. Pairin—who is also president of the Sabah United Party, PBS—handed his letter of resignation personally to the governor, Tun Mohamed Said Keruak, at 1.50 pm [0550 GMT] at the Palace in Kota Kinabalu.

Front Leader To Replace Pairin

BK1703065694 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] The new Sabah chief minister to replace Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan is scheduled to be sworn in this afternoon. The national news agency BERNAMA said in Kota Kinabalu that it has received a fax from the Information Department inviting newsmen to cover the ceremony at 3.30 pm [0730 GMT] at the palace in the state

capital. The department's press (?advisory) confirmed the widespread talks that Datuk Pairin would step down this afternoon.

Sabah National Front chief Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai is set to become chief minister.

Yesterday, the National Front, BN, staked its claim to form the new Sabah Government by petitioning the governor, Tun Mohamed Said Keruak, that it now commanded the majority in the State Legislative Assembly. There are altogether 30 state assemblymen, including those from the Sabah United Party, PBS, who defected to the National Front, filed the petition to those who respected the governor to ask Datuk Pairin to step down and offer the post to Tan Sri Sakaran. [sentence as heard]

BN Petitions To Form Government

*BK1603142694 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in Malay 1300 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Excerpt] The National Front [BN] has petitioned Sabah Governor Tun Mohamed Said Keruak to allow it to form the new state government. Meanwhile, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan is losing more Sabah United Party [PBS] state assemblymen, including his deputy and strong supporter, Datuk Bernard Dompok. PBS, which narrowly won the state election on 18 and 19 February, has now lost 21 state assemblymen. The party now has only 10 state assemblymen left, while the number of BN state assemblymen has risen to 44. Many more PBS state assemblymen are expected to quit the party, and Datuk Pairin Kitingan is expected to announce his resignation as chief minister before he faces a no-confidence motion at the State Legislative Assembly which sits on Friday. [passage omitted]

PBRs Applies for BN Membership

*BK1603133794 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia
Network in English 1300 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] Parti Bersatu Rakyat Sabah [Sabah United People's Party], PBRs, which was launched yesterday, has submitted its application to join Barisan Nasional [BN or National Front].

It was handed over by Pro-tem President Datuk Joseph Kurup to BN Chairman Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed at the Prime Minister's Office. Kurup told a news conference later that Dr. Mahathir gave his support to the application by PBRs. Their talks also touched on the position of Datuk Dr. Jeffrey Kitingan, the assemblyman for Bingkor, who yesterday was said to have backed the formation of PBRs but was reported today to be preparing to set up his own party.

PBS [Sabah United Party] state assemblymen have, meanwhile, indicated that they are to join Barisan Nasional. The deputy chief minister of Sabah, Datuk Bernard Dompok, accompanied by 10 others conveyed a message to Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim when they called on the deputy prime minister in Kuala Lumpur this afternoon.

Speaking to newsmen after the meeting, Datuk Bernard Dompok said they have planned to set up a new party which will apply to join Barisan Nasional. He also said that he will talk to other former PBS leaders, including Datuk Dr. Jeffrey Kitingan about the plan.

Singapore

Minister: 5.5 Percent Maximum 1994 Inflation

BK1603125894 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Mar 94 p 1

[By Zuraidah Ibrahim]

[Text] Inflation this year is not expected to exceed 5.5 percent and is likely to be even lower with the many offsets for the Goods and Services Tax [GST], said Mr. Yeo Cheow Tong yesterday. The trade and industry minister gave the assurance after noting that the underlying inflation rate was around 2.5 percent and assuming a full 3 percent additional rate due to the GST. "And since we have a lot of offsets, it is likely to be below 5.5 percent," he added. Offsets to cushion the impact of the GST include rebates on service and conservancy charges and tax cuts.

Mr. Yeo made this assessment in reply to MPs who expressed worry last week that GST-induced inflation could lead to a price spiral. Some had predicted inflation of 6 percent, while others feared it would hit 9 percent, more than thrice last year's 2.4 percent.

Yesterday, the minister assured the House repeatedly that the new tax, to be launched next month, will not lead to high inflation.

He cited a 1986 International Monetary Fund study of 35 countries which introduced GST and found that 29 only had a one-off rise in inflation. The rate went back to normal subsequently. For many, the increase was also lower than the tax rate.

Addressing calls to combat profiteering, he revealed that the reactivated Committee on Profiteering and Inflation had met major retailers to gauge how they would respond to the GST. Many said they would absorb the tax for most of their lower-priced items and pledged not to raise prices by more than 3 percent for higher-priced goods. On the possibility of people taking advantage of the GST to jack up prices, he said the keen competition in Singapore's very open economy with no supply shortages left little scope for this. But, he added it was also difficult to determine what constituted profiteering.

Price differences occurred all the time at different places. As long as people were willing to pay, who could say shops were profiteering, he asked. It could only exist if consumers had no choice. Noting that the government was nevertheless mindful of the public's concern, he cited several other measures, including the Department of Statistics' regular survey of hawker prices. Its finding so far: Only 4 percent have raised prices. "So this concern about runaway prices, therefore, has no basis at all," he said.

The department, he added, will assist the Consumers' Association of Singapore [Case] by helping it to publish a list of the best and worst deals for consumers. The latter will be a blacklist, similar to the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board's blacklist of shops for tourists, he said, adding that Case should be bold in protecting the consumer.

He also said that those who ganged up to form a monopoly would face the consequences of the Price Control Act. Under the act, the government can set maximum prices for goods which it thinks suppliers are profiteering from.

Mr. Yeo's final message: The comprehensive measures could only work if consumers exercised their rights. "We have to teach the retailers that greed does not pay, and the consumer is in the best position to do that."

Parliament passed the Trade and Industry Ministry's budget and began scrutiny of the Ministry of Information and the Arts. Debate continues today.

Cambodia

King Urges Government To Allow Press Freedom

BK1603134794 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 16 Mar 94

["Statement of His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman of the Kingdom of Cambodia to his compatriots concerning rights and freedom of the press;" dated 14 March—read by announcer]

[Text] Beijing General Hospital, 14 March 1994

Beloved compatriots: I have the honor to inform my beloved compatriots the following:

1. Several Cambodian and foreign newspapers have become very worried and disappointed with what they call the desire of our Cambodian Royal Government [RCG] and National Assembly to issue a law to restrict the rights and freedom of the press, particularly the foreign press.

2. I do hope that the beloved RCG and National Assembly of Cambodia will continue allowing all Cambodian and foreign newspapers to enjoy full rights and freedoms and provide all facilities for those journalists to carry out their work conveniently.

I believe that we need not arrange any regulations nor draft any laws for the Cambodian and foreign press.

During the 1991-92 period, in my capacity as the chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, I promised, on behalf of the new Cambodia, to all journalists that Cambodia, which desired to pursue a modern liberal democratic system, would allow all newspapers to enjoy every right and freedom this system permits. In the event that a newspaper article presents groundless information that affects our interests, we should have the right and duty to ask that newspaper to issue a responsible correction.

3. I do understand that the king reigns but does not control state power. Therefore, I would like the beloved RCG and National Assembly to freely make their own decision on this matter as well as on other issues.

I have said this only in view of the interests of our Kingdom of Cambodia which desires to gain prestige as a champion of press freedom. Nevertheless, we do not have to strive to overcome any journalists who oppose us. I have gained quite a lot of experience concerning this matter from my numerous struggles in the past vis-a-vis journalists and researchers. Although my cause was right, I was all along the big loser while they remained the everlasting winners.

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk

Laos

Infrastructure Accord Signed With Thailand

BK1703104694 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT
17 Mar 94

[Text] Vientiane, March 17 (KPL)—A memorandum of understanding was signed here on March 15, concerning the construction of cement, oil refinery, and electricity factories in the central province of Khammouane.

The document was inked between Mr. Leuan Sombouanekhan, vice-president of the Committee for Planning and Cooperation, and Dr. Pramuan Liaophilat, executive general manager of the TPI Company of Thailand. Vice Prime Minister and President of the Committee for Planning and Cooperation Khamphoui Keoboulapha, and Thai Ambassador to Laos Somphan Kokilanon were seen at the signing among others concerned from both sides.

The memorandum provides that the Lao Government has authorized the Thai company to make a survey to prepare an economic, technical report on the prospective factories of cement, oil refinery and electricity in the province of Laos. The report will then be submitted to the Lao Government for review and approval that will lead to the signing of another document. The survey will take about six months.

The cement factory alone, once completed, will be capable of producing 3 million tons of cement per year and will employ about 2,000 people. Its building cost is estimated at U.S. 400 million. A total capital of U.S. 800 million will be used to build the oil refinery factory that is capable of refining 1.2 million tons of oil per year. Raw materials will be imported from overseas to feed the factory that will employ about 3,000 people. The construction of the electricity factory will need a total capital of U.S. 150 million, and its power generating capacity is 150 mgw [megawatts] per year.

At the signing ceremony, the Thai TPI company presented some 100 tons of cement to the Lao Government.

Saman Vi-gnaket Delivers Closing Speech

BK1703092494 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio
Network in Lao 1200 GMT 14 Mar 94

[Speech by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the National Assembly, delivered at the closing ceremony of the third ordinary session of the Third National Assembly in Vientiane on 14 March—recorded]

[Text] Our meeting studied and endorsed the amendment to the Law on the Promotion and Management of Foreign Investment in the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the Labor Law. This is another important part in the implementation of the primary task of our legislative organization.

In studying and considering the two draft laws, members of the National Assembly made impressive efforts to contribute invaluable views to the improvement of the two laws by linking them to realities. This clearly shows that our National Assembly members always adhere to the party's stand and the roles of the National Assembly. That is why they have again firmly maintained a sense of mastery and held aloft a sense of political responsibility.

Compared with the old laws, the two new laws that have been amended and endorsed are more exemplary and conform to the current reality. Almost all articles in the Law on the Promotion and Management of Foreign Investment in the LPDR have been amended to conform to our party and state policy of broadening economic relations and cooperation with foreign countries. The amended law will serve to attract, persuade, and create confidence for friendly countries, international organizations, and foreign investors to invest in Laos; to ensure the rights and interests of investors as well as the interests and sovereignty of our country; and to create favorable conditions for foreign investors in our country. Some articles of the Labor Law have also been amended and added to. This is to plug certain loopholes, ensure and protect the legitimate rights and interests of both employees and employers, thereby encouraging them to fulfill their respective obligations, gradually making its contents more universal and accommodating to the requirements in the implementation of the party's policy of restructuring and the state's socioeconomic plan, effectively contributing to the development of human resources in our country.

Our meeting studied, considered, and elected the chairman of the Supreme People's Court and the people's general prosecutor. Their election was carried out through secret ballot. This is the first time National Assembly members have exercised their voting rights through secret ballot to elect suitable persons to two important judiciary organizations. The process reaffirms the full exercise of democratic rights by National Assembly members.

The meeting also studied and contributed views to the draft internal regulations of the National Assembly. This shows that we have transformed the contents of the National Assembly Law into details to suit the reality of resolving assembly work. This law serves to further consolidate and perfect the National Assembly machinery and

to create favorable conditions for members to conduct their duties of representing the people and safeguarding their rights and interests.

The meeting reviewed and assessed the strengths and weaknesses and drew lessons from National Assembly activities carried out since the convening of the second ordinary session.

It assessed that these activities have just begun and that we must continue to endeavor to overcome numerous obstacles with a sense of revolutionary enthusiasm to fulfill all historical obligations entrusted by the people.

Respected personages, the enactment, amendment, and promulgation of a law is always important. But the most important thing reflecting the effectiveness of the promulgated law is its implementation and translation into reality. To effectively implement a law, first of all, I would like to ask the government to adopt appropriate measures to facilitate its implementation. Meanwhile, National Assembly members also have the duty to train, educate, and mobilize the people of all strata to take part in the revolution.

Our meeting elected the chairman of the Supreme People's Court and the people's general prosecutor. This is to further consolidate and invigorate the two judiciary organizations in implementing the Constitution and other laws. To achieve this, we must continue assisting these organizations to carry out their tasks to ensure justice in our society.

To put the successful results of this meeting into practice, I call on all National Assembly members to consider again Party Chairman Khamtai Siphandon's speech at the second ordinary session of the Third National Assembly on the duties and responsibilities of the National Assembly and its members.

To raise our political responsibility as representatives of the rights and interests of the multiethnic people, let us strive to overcome all obstacles and difficulties in disseminating the successful results of this meeting among the people in all regions, and mobilize them to translate the resolution adopted at this meeting into reality. At the same time, I call on all of you to begin drafting the substance of certain laws which will be deliberated in the coming ordinary session to ensure the quality of the laws enacted and amended, thereby gradually perfecting our legal system. This is the urgent central task which National Assembly members must fulfill in the immediate future.

I call on all compatriots of all strata, ethnic groups, and ages to further enhance the tradition of patriotism and a sense of mastery, to unite in implementing the tasks of national defense and reconstruction, and to translate into reality the 1993-94 socioeconomic development plan and the Constitution and other laws.

I call on all party, state, and mass organizations as well as administrative organizations and services at all levels to cooperate and to create favorable conditions for National

Assembly members to carry out their role as people's representatives to fulfill the tasks entrusted by the party and people.

On this auspicious occasion, on behalf of the National Assembly, I would like to once again thank the party chairman, all members of the Political Bureau, and advisers to the party Central Committee for sacrificing your precious time to attend this meeting.

I hereby officially declare the third ordinary session of the Third National Assembly closed.

Thank you.

Thailand

Foreign Minister Previews Honolulu APEC Meeting

BK1703062494 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Excerpts] Human resources development is the main topic to be proposed by Thailand in the upcoming informal meeting of the finance ministers of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC, countries. Foreign Minister Prasong says the meeting—to be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, during 18-19 March—will be regarded as a consultation, not a negotiation. Finance Minister Tharin Nimmanhemmin will represent Thailand at the meeting. [passage omitted]

Minister Prasong says the United States has proposed the setting up of a business convention center in Asia and the Pacific, if APEC countries will select two business people to attend the business conference as proposed by the United States. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has entrusted the Board of Trade of Thailand and the Federation of Thai Industries to select qualified persons to take part in the business conference.

Finance Minister Departs for Session

BK1703021494 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Mar 94 p 16

[Text] This week's meeting of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) finance ministers will not be a forum for negotiating trade and services liberalisation, Finance Minister Tharin Nimmanhemmin said yesterday.

Speaking before his departure for the talks in Honolulu, Mr Tharin described the meeting as "no big deal" for Thailand. The discussions will only cover general assessments of the economic climate, he said.

US Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen, who will host the talks, has said they will be informal and that the Americans would remain flexible on the agenda.

Negotiations on opening financial markets will be left for the concluding ministerial meeting of the Uruguay Round of world trade talks in Marrakesh, Morocco next month, said Mr Tharin.

There will be no talks on trading, services and double taxation. The discussions will cover situations of the world economy such as economic growth, capital flow and development of capital markets in the APEC countries, said Mr Tharin.

He added that officials from the Ministry of Finance had been assigned to present a study on the effects of capital flows in the country's development.

Bank of Thailand and Stock Exchange Commission officials will attend the meeting to provide additional information. The APEC discussions will take only one day, commented Mr Tharin.

Mr Tharin said ASEAN Finance Ministers will arrange a meeting among themselves prior to presenting their positions and data one day before the full meeting takes place.

Thailand is the host for this meeting. This does not mean, he added, that Thailand will present itself as the core for the ASEAN countries in the APEC meeting.

Regarding the recent trade conflict between the US and Japan. Mr Tharin said the conflict did not directly involve APEC members.

He believes the US will not involve APEC member countries in its dispute with Japan. Their effort to enforce the Japanese to open their markets will not affect Thai products in the US market as Thailand has already adopted free trade policies.

Therefore, the US has no reason to pressure Thailand to open its market for US products, commented Mr Tharin.

"Thailand has opened its markets for US products such as software and computer chips. Thus, I believe the US will have sufficient reason not to enlarge the trade war. Also US officials have assured the participants that this matter will be precluded from discussion," said Mr Tharin.

Discusses APEC Agenda

BK1703072294 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Finance Minister Tharin Nimmanhemmin says it has been agreed that the meeting of APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] finance ministers, to be held during 18-19 March in Hawaii, will discuss economic growth strategies, the role of revolving funds in national development, and the development of local financial markets. It has also been agreed that the meeting will not be used for forced access to financial markets or examination of a country's economic policies. He said that he would head the seminar on the topic of the role of revolving funds in national development.

The finance minister disclosed that his delegation has been changed to include a representative of the office of the securities exchange management committee to cover the meeting's agenda. The delegation originally included only representatives of the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Thailand.

Police Discover Large Quantity of Explosives

BK1703125694 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] Police authorities today found a dead body and a large quantity of explosives on a truck that was towed to Lumpini Police Station on 11 March. The truck belongs to Thammawutkan Transport Company. Mr. Thawin Pawaratphichit, owner of the company, informed the police that the truck and its driver disappeared on 11 March. The police inspected the truck and found a large water container connected with electrical wires. The police rescue unit was asked to disconnect the wires. Master Sergeant Somkiat Nakon told reporters that the explosive is C-4 buried in ammonium nitrate mixed with diesel oil, and it could have been powerful if detonated. He said:

[Begin Somkiat recording] The bomb was connected to almost a complete circuit and was ready to explode if someone pushed the switch. The local police opened the water tank and shoveled off the fertilizer. After seeing electrical wires, they called my unit in and I disconnected the wires. [end recording]

The truck was later driven into Lumpini Park, which was not crowded during the daytime. The operation to defuse the explosive was observed by a large crowd. The authorities found three pounds of C-4 explosives and 14 detonators. A dead male body wrapped in a plastic sheet was then found at the bottom of the water tank. Police Major General Nithat Sawettanan, the commander of the Southern Metropolitan Police Commission, said that Thawin rented his truck to foreigners for 12,000 baht on 9 March. The truck was to load cargo at Makro wholesale center in the Bangkapi area on 10 March. The driver telephoned Thawin on the same day and said that he had already received the money, but then was not heard from since. But on 11 March, the truck was involved in an accident with a motorcycle in front of Central Chitlom department store. The driver was a foreigner who disappeared after paying for the damage to the motorcycle. Police authorities later drove the truck to the police station.

A police expert disclosed that if detonated in the open air, the destruction could extend as far as one kilometer. The police believe that the production of this large bomb needed five or six hours and a secluded area, possibly the department store's underground parking lot or a nearby place.

Lieutenant General Chaiyasit Kanchanakit of the Metropolitan Police Commission inspected the truck but refused to comment. However, many people suspected that the bomb may have been intended to sabotage several important places such as embassies in the area.

Vietnam

Thai Delegation Visit, Leadership Meetings Noted

Kiet Welcomes Chuan, Agreements Signed

BK1603142294 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Report by Dinh Khai on the ceremony held in Hanoi on the morning of 16 March to welcome Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likhai—recorded]

[Summary] At 1130 sharp, the motorcade escorting Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and other distinguished Thai guests arrived at the Presidential Palace. On hand to welcome Prime Minister Chuan and his entourage were Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet; Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong; Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam; Le Xuan Trinh, minister and director of the Government Office; Dau Ngoc Xuan, minister and director of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment; Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Le Cong Phung; Le At Hoi, chairman of the Hanoi City People's Committee; and many leading officials of various ministries, departments, sectors, and mass organizations at the central level and in Hanoi. Also present at the welcoming ceremony were members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of international organizations in Hanoi, and many Vietnamese and foreign journalists.

"As the motorcade stopped, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet walked to the door of the limousine carrying Prime Minister Chuan Likphai to greet him. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet then invited Chuan to join him on the honorary stand while the military band played the national anthems of Thailand and Vietnam." Next, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai reviewed the guard of honor before being introduced to Vietnamese officials, members of the diplomatic corps, and representatives of international organizations in Hanoi.

"Immediately following the official welcoming ceremony, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet cordially received Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at the Presidential Palace. On behalf of the Vietnamese Government, Vo Van Kiet welcomed Chuan and his entourage on their official visit to Vietnam. He highly valued the visit and expressed his belief that this event will contribute to promoting cooperative ties between the two countries in the days ahead.

"In his reply speech, Chuan thanked Vo Van Kiet and the Vietnamese Government and people for according his delegation a very warm welcome. He said: We have waited a long time for this opportunity to visit Vietnam and we are convinced that this event will further strengthen the good relations between the two countries.

"The talks between the Vietnamese Government delegation headed by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and the Thai Government delegation headed by Prime Minister Chuan Likphai took place at the Presidential Palace this afternoon. The two sides informed each other about the situation in each country and exchanged views on issues of common concern in a bid to further develop the friendly and cooperative ties between the two countries.

"A ceremony was held immediately following the talks to sign agreements on tourist cooperation and cooperation between the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Thai Industries."

Kiet Holds Talks With Chuan

BK1603154894 Hanoi VNA in English 1506 GMT
16 Mar 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 16—Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and his counterpart Mr Chuan Likphai held talks here this afternoon.

The talks were also attended, on the Vietnamese side, by Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, and other high-ranking officials.

On the Thai side were Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, Deputy Minister Gen. Wichit Sukmak and other members of the Thai delegation.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet warmly welcomed the first official visit to Vietnam by Prime Minister Chuan Likphai describing it as a new step of development of the friendship and multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries.

He informed the guests of Vietnam's achievements in the present renovation, and stressed that Vietnam would continue that direction and be persistent in its foreign policy of independence, sovereignty, openness, multilateralisation, and attach importance to its relationship with countries in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, for his part, expressed his pleasure to witness the achievements of the renovation process in Vietnam.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction at the fine development of their friendship and multi-faceted cooperation between the two countries, over the past years, saying it is an important contribution to the trend for peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia. They exchanged views on how to enhance their bilateral friendship and cooperation.

The Thai side affirmed its government's readiness to assist and cooperate with Vietnam in the fields of science and technology, agriculture and personnel training. The Vietnamese side highly appreciated the concern of the king, the royal family and the government of Thailand about further cooperation with Vietnam in the interests of the two people's, for peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia and the world as a whole.

In the atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, the two sides also exchanged their views on concrete measures to reestablish order for fishing on Thailand gulf, and delineate the overlapping sea areas relating to the two countries, speed up the process of view exchange to finalize the document relating to the use of the Mekong river water and the transfer of the southern part of the Ho Chi Minh flight information region (for Ho Chi Minh).

The two sides also compared notes on regional and international issues of common concern. The Vietnamese side highly appreciated Thailand and other ASEAN countries for their support to Vietnam to be observer and to participate in various committees and some cooperation programmes of the ASEAN in the fields of science, technology, culture, information, healthcare, tourism, environment, and personnel training. The Thai side reaffirmed its continuation to support Vietnam to join the ASEAN, and expressed its hope that Vietnam would soon

become a full-member of the organization in an appropriate time. Thailand also applauded Vietnam to participate in the regional forum on security to be held in Bangkok in July 1994. The two sides held that the promotion of cooperation between Vietnam and ASEAN and Vietnam's participation in the forum conformed to the trend for cooperation in the region.

Fishing Rights Discussed

*BK1703014494 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Mar 94 p 1*

[By Suphaphon Kanwirayothin in Hanoi]

[Excerpts] Thailand and Vietnam, in a bid to remove a major thorn in bilateral relations, yesterday agreed to set up a joint task force at ministerial level to resolve the problem of fishing rights in the Gulf of Thailand. They agreed on the move, which was proposed by Thailand, during talks held shortly after the arrival here of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai for a four-day official visit.

Fishery questions topped the agenda of a dozen issues the two delegations touched on during the plenary talks chaired by Mr Chuan and Vietnam's Premier Vo Van Kiet. Fisheries Department chief Plotprasop Suratsawat affirmed Thailand's eagerness to settle the fishery row. He told the BANGKOK POST he hoped the joint task force would be able to recommend a solution within the first two months of its inception. "Both sides shared the feeling that this problem must be resolved urgently but with extreme caution as it has implications encompassing aspects of national security, economy and the livelihoods of the two peoples. And a rash solution could be damaging," Mr Plotprasop said. [passage omitted]

The question of fishing rights will be discussed in depth today in a separate meeting between Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Manh Cam. Mr Plotprasop will also attend the meeting. According to Mr Plotprasop, the Thai delegation yesterday made clear to the Vietnamese side that if there were no solution to the fishery problem, cooperation in other fields might be affected, for instance that of agriculture. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak is due to hold bilateral talks with Vietnam's Defence Minister Doan Khue this morning.

Chuan Meets Do Muoi

*BK1603145294 Hanoi VNA in English 1429 GMT
16 Mar 94*

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 16—Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and his party called on Communist Party of Vietnam General Secretary Do Muoi here this afternoon.

During their meeting, the two leaders informed each other of the developments in their countries and noted with pleasure that the Vietnamese-Thai friendly and cooperative ties were being developed favourably and that the

recent exchange of visits of high-level delegations of the two countries ushered in a new chapter in their bilateral relations.

Party Secretary Do Muoi affirmed that Vietnam would continue its efforts to strengthen and develop the friendly, neighbourly and cooperative relations with Thailand in the interests of the two peoples, and for peace, stability and development in Southeast Asia and the world as a whole.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, for his part, expressed his desire to further promote the cooperation between Thailand and Vietnam by strictly implementing the agreements reached by the two governments and going on with discussions to solve remaining issues in the spirit of friendship, constructive cooperation and mutual benefits.

On this occasion, General Secretary Do Muoi asked P.M. Chuan Likphai to convey his best wishes to the king and the whole royal family of Thailand.

Further on Do Muoi-Chuan Meeting

*BK1703053294 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in
Thai 0000 GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai paid a courtesy call on Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], at the party Central Committee Office in Hanoi at 1700 yesterday. Both the CPV general secretary and the Thai prime minister agreed that both countries will follow up agreements reached in various fields so they will bear fruit effectively.

On the same occasion, the CPV general secretary expressed his admiration to His Majesty the King and members of the royal family of Thailand. The CPV general secretary greatly admired the royally initiated projects dealing with agriculture and water resources and he wants to request Thai assistance on this field. Aphisit Wetchachiwa, spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office, granted an interview to this reporter on the event.

[Begin recording] [Aphisit] The Vietnamese party Central Committee general secretary expressed his profound admiration and gratitude to His Majesty the King, who once granted him an audience. He also expressed his admiration to members of the Thai Royal Family and royally initiated projects in various fields. He noted that the relationship between the two countries has significantly improved in the past few years. He wanted the bilateral cooperation to further develop for economic, social, and political interests in this region.

[Unidentified reporter] What royally initiated projects is the CPV chairman [as heard] interested in and admires?

[Aphisit] He said he is greatly impressed by royally initiated projects, especially in the field of agriculture dealing with water. This is because Vietnam wants to improve agricultural production efficiency. Despite success at a certain level in economic reform, Vietnam still has problems due to a lack of technology and improvement in production efficiency, which is becoming more

competitive. He specifically admired the king's ability in agriculture and royally initiated projects in various fields.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Aphisit] He mentioned Thailand providing assistance through royally initiated projects to other countries, such as Laos. Such forms of assistance are aimed to be models. Vietnam has also requested such assistance from Thailand.

[Reporter] Does he want royally initiated projects to be in his country?

[Aphisit] Right.

[Reporter] Did they discuss possible steps to be taken?

[Aphisit] The king will be informed of this matter and I think it could be possible because the king also mentioned this in an audience once given to him. [end recording]

Kiet Speaks at 16 Mar Banquet

BK1703061094 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 Mar 94

["Text" of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's speech at 16 March banquet in honor of Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, distinguished Thai guests, dear friends: On behalf of the Vietnamese government and people, I would like to warmly welcome Your Excellency Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and other distinguished Thai guests. You have brought with you the Thai people's friendship for the Vietnamese people. For myself, I am very pleased to have the opportunity to return the hospitality that Your Excellency Prime Minister Chuan Likphai has accorded to the Vietnamese leaders during their visits to Thailand, which have achieved much in terms of economic development.

I am very pleased to note that since October 1991, when I had the opportunity to pay an official visit to Thailand, the relations between our two countries have reached a new level of development. Comrade Do Muoi, our party general secretary, paid a visit to Thailand and the Vietnamese people had the opportunity to welcome the Thai Prince and Princess. Those visits were of great significance because they have contributed to consolidating and strengthening our bilateral relations.

We have exchanged honest views on issues of common concern in an effort to strengthen the friendly relations between our two countries. Bilateral economic, trade, scientific, technical, and tourist cooperation has been expanded. The signing of agreements on bilateral tourist cooperation and cooperation between the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Federation of Thai Industries during your current visit to Vietnam is a new indication of that positive trend of development.

Vietnam and Thailand are two neighboring countries with many cultural similarities and long-lasting relations

throughout the course of history. The harmonious relations between our two peoples are a very important factor for the prosperity of each country and also a great contribution to stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Being fully aware of this, our government and people have done all we can to contribute to consolidating and promoting good friendship and neighborliness. We are persisting in a comprehensive national renovation policy while at the same implementing a foreign policy of openness for the sake of peace, cooperation, and development. That policy is in conformity with the great trends of development in the region and other parts of the world. Consequently, it is gaining the full support of our entire people and of broad sections of world public opinion, and is bringing about important results.

Against such a backdrop is our resolve to join efforts with countries in the region in turning Southeast Asia into a region of peace, independence, cooperation, and development. Prompted by that resolve, Vietnam will make a constructive contribution to the upcoming Regional Security Forum in Bangkok.

Your Excellency the Prime Minister and distinguished guests, I would like to invite you to toast the health of the King and Royal Family, the president of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and His Excellency the Prime Minister and other distinguished Thai guests. May the friendship and comprehensive cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand continue to be consolidated and developed with each passing day. Let us toast the health of all those who are present here.

Chuan Speaks at Banquet

BK1703054494 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0000 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Speech by Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at a banquet held in his honor by SRV Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet in Hanoi on 16 March—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] I am very pleased to learn that our countries have closely cooperated with each other in financial services and investment markets. The Bank of Thailand and the Securities Exchange of Thailand will render cooperation to and closely coordinate with the Vietnamese national bank. Such exchanges of experience and information will help strengthen the financial services of the two countries. I believe we all agree that the present world economic system will advance firmly if we can build up and develop a strong base in financial services. We must be prepared for rapidly increasing competition. The cooperation which exists under the principle of good understanding and mutual benefit will form an important foundation for multilateral relations, which will lead to a collaboration of quality power [khunaphap phalang]. I believe that good relations among the countries in the region, especially the countries in the Mekong River basin, will enable us to cope with problems that may arise in sharing the use of natural resources. We will work to

jointly preserve and improve the environment to benefit our present and future generations. [passage omitted]

During my visit to Vietnam, leading figures from business institutions in major fields are joining the trip so they will be directly informed of certain policies of both Thailand and Vietnam that will promote trade and investment. This will create mutual benefit within a definite framework and regulations. They will be able to observe the economic potential of Vietnam. Furthermore, both sides must carry out necessary activities to promote trade and investment cooperation by supplying each other with clear and correct information. Therefore, I am pleased that Thai and Vietnamese investment promotion organizations have jointly organized a seminar to seek ways to further expand trade and investment cooperation. [passage omitted]

Activities of Thai Delegation

BK1703074094 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 17 Mar 94

[Text] This morning, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and the delegation of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand paid a floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum. After that, the delegation toured Quan Su Pagoda.

Also this morning, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and his entourage attended the opening of a seminar on the environment and investment opportunities in Vietnam sponsored by our country's State Committee for Cooperation and Investment. Attending the seminar, on the Thai side were 30 businessmen who are accompanying Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and 75 other businessmen who are paying working visits to Vietnam.

Speaking on this occasion, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai reviewed the developments of Thailand's cooperation with and investment in Vietnam over the past years. He asserted that the Thai Government stands ready to create every kind of favorable condition for Thai businessmen to invest in or conduct business transactions with Vietnam. He expressed his hope that, thanks to the fine development of bilateral relations, Thailand's investment would be strengthened a step further in the days ahead.

At 1030 this morning, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and other distinguished Thai guests left Hanoi for Hue by plane to continue their official friendship visit to our country. On behalf of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam bade farewell to Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and his entourage at the Presidential Palace.

Joint Venture Pacts, Syndicated Loan

BK1703025694 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Mar 94 pp 15, 24

[Text] On the second day of his visit to Vietnam, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai will today witness the signing of four contracts for joint ventures considered the most substantive ever concluded between Thai and Vietnamese

businessmen. Sathaphon Kawitanon, the secretary-general of the Board of Investment [BoI], said the ceremony will be held before the seminar on investment in Vietnam co-organised by the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment and the BoI.

The four projects comprise:

- the joint investment to establish the Siam-Vina Bank between Thailand's Siam Commercial Bank, the Charoen Phokhaphan Group and the Vietnam Bank of Agriculture
- joint cooperation in developing an industrial estate between the Bang Pakong Industrial Park and Sonadezi Bien Hoa;
- a joint investment project worth 400 million baht involving mining by the U-Surint Industrial Group with Vietnamese state-run authority partners, and
- a contract between Thailand's Advance Paint and Chemical Co and Vietnam's Ngan Hua Economic and Engineering Consultants and Dong Tam.

Mr Sathaphon, who led a group of 70 prominent Thai businessmen joining the Chuan delegation, said the visit would boost confidence in investment here and remind businessmen to take genuine action for investment on a long-term basis. He said the failure of previous visits by groups of businessmen several years ago was because of improper investment regulations on the Vietnamese side. The situation had now changed, especially Hanoi's investment rules and regulations, which would help induce more investment from overseas. "I don't think it is too late for Thai businessmen to invest in Vietnam. We are not a very rich country, so we have to be careful where we put our money. We have to take time surveying places where there is high potential.

Mr Chuan yesterday witnessed two agreement signing ceremonies, on tourism cooperation between the two countries and a joint business council between the Federation of Thai Industries and Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

PM's Office Minister Sawit Phothiwihok said cooperation in tourism would cover the liberalisation of air territories for Vietnamese airlines to fly over Thailand to other destinations worldwide. Cooperation on air traffic control between the two countries would be processed under the agreement.

Consultation on further investment in tourism-related businesses including hotels and tourist companies, would take place later.

Meanwhile, Vietnam's request for a loan of US\$100 million from Thailand to develop its infrastructure has been agreed in principle by the Finance Ministry, according to Wichit Suphinit, the governor of the Bank of Thailand. Mr Wichit revealed after a meeting with Finance Minister Tharin Nimmanhemmin yesterday that the Hanoi Government had submitted a letter asking for a \$100-million loan from the Thai Government through the Bank of Thailand. The central bank approved the request and agreed to find

the funds as soon as possible because the loan was indispensable for the development of the country, he said. The loan will be a syndicated one since Thailand does not have adequate funds allocated for the purpose. The Krung Thai Bank and the Export-Import Bank of Thailand were asked to coordinate with local and foreign banks to mobilise the funds. "The interest rate has not been discussed as Hanoi has yet to send a withdrawal plan to the central bank and terms and conditions must be agreed upon among syndicated banks. But the rate will be fixed as is the normal practice for syndicated loans," said Mr Wichit.

A Thai working group is already present in Vietnam. It will negotiate at a certain level with the Hanoi Government prior to Mr Wichit's arrival. The negotiations will be finalised in Chiang Mai next Friday. Mr Wichit added that after discussing the issue with Krung Thai Bank president Sirin Nimmanhemin—the coordinator of the loan—that proceedings for implementing the loan would go ahead as soon as possible. Coordination among syndicated banks will be concluded by next Wednesday and the contract is expected to be signed by Friday. The loan marks one of the most important syndicated loans between Thailand and Vietnam. It would indirectly serve as an instrument to promote Thai investment in Vietnam, he added. Mr Wichit said the loan was quite similar to the Indochina Fund, except for certain terms and conditions. The funds

would be injected into infrastructure projects or re-lent to the private sector for the same purpose. The Indochina Fund lends directly to each project, with the feasibility and validity of each project evaluated by a special unit.

The Bank of Thailand is also considering setting up such a unit to support the continued and quickly expanding investments in the country, he said. Should Thailand ignore the opportunity, it will fail to benefit from the current favourable liquidity situation, part of which will come from foreign funds using Thailand as a base to distribute their capital to Indochina. Finance Minister Tharin said he had discussed with M.R. Pridiyathon Thewakun, the president of the Export-Import Bank, seeking banks to join the syndicated loan. He said the loan would be long-term and the rate would not be a major concern as Vietnam was mobilising funds to develop itself. The loan would serve as an index for Thai banks lending to Indochinese countries, including foreign banks operating in Thailand, said Mr Tharin.

"The loan is endorsed by the credit of the Hanoi Government. Therefore, the types and specifications of projects will not be required. The Vietnam Government has full authority to decide which projects will get the money," said Mr Tharin.

Australia

Indonesia To Take Part in Military Exercise

*BK1603093094 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 16 Mar 94*

[Text] Soldiers from Indonesia and Australia are to take part in military exercises over the next four weeks. A team of 25 Australian soldiers from the Special Air Service will take part in Exercise Night Komodo in Indonesia. At the same time, a contingent from Indonesia's special forces will undergo training in Australia's Exercise Kookaburra.

A statement from the Australian Defense Department said the training will concentrate on basic military skills relevant to special forces, including weapons practice, parachuting, navigation, and communications. The department said Indonesian troops would use Australian facilities in Perth to train to retake an aircraft after a hijack.

Spokesman Defends Joint Exercise

*BK1703105694 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0630 GMT 17 Mar 94*

[Text] The Australian Defense Force is to train soldiers from an Indonesian Army unit that Amnesty International has linked with the torture of East Timorese. The program is part of the federal government's plan to develop closer links with the Indonesian military. Prime Minister Paul Keating says Australia's defense relationship with Indonesia is the key to establishing defense in and with Asia. David Pembroke asked Brigadier Adrian Danger to explain the training the Indonesians would undertake during their stay.

[Begin recording] [Danger] Well, the Indonesian Special Forces will be operating with our Special Forces in the west in counter hijack training. We have arguably one of the best facilities in the world for teaching people how to deal with (?quick) counter terrorist operations, and specifically how to deal with hijacked aircraft.

[Pembroke] Is that the only training they will be undertaking?

[Danger] Oh, they will be undertaking some other basic training such as communications and the like. But that is the major emphasis here and that is very important to the public of Australia and to the general public of Indonesia. We need to have a mutual confidence, if you like, that if a Qantas airliner with a whole bunch of Australians is hijacked in Indonesia, in Jakarta, that those skills are there to safeguard the traveling public. Conversely, we need to have confidence that the Indonesians need to have confidence that if Garuda is hijacked, at say, Mascot, then they know that we have those skills, and that exchange is reasonably common among Special Forces around the world.

[Pembroke] But do you as a spokesperson for the Defense Forces have any misgivings about training soldiers from a

unit who were alleged to have been involved in the torture and suppression of minorities in their country.

[Danger] Look, Amnesty International from time to time will make remarks as they do against the internal affairs of Indonesia, against human rights issues in other countries around the world, including Australia. That is not the concern of our task in terms of counter hijack.

[Pembroke] But at the same time, do you have any misgivings that we are skilling these people up, even though it is to do with counter terrorism, that we are indeed improving the skills of these people, who according to Amnesty are involved in the suppression of minorities in Indonesia.

[Danger] No, we are not skilling these people to deal with internal affairs of Indonesia or any other country. These are skills which are specific to protecting the traveling public. [end recording]

Immigration Minister Discusses Refugee Problem

*BK1703101994 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0630 GMT 17 Mar 94*

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Australia will next month play host to a regional conference on the issue of illegal movement of people—so-called people smuggling. Eighteen Asian and Pacific nations are expected to take part as well as representatives from international bodies involved in immigration issues.

Australia's immigration minister, Nick Bolkus, says the practice amounts to slavery and has been growing in the Asia-Pacific region. Senator Bolkus told Linda Mottram it is a multi-billion dollar industry with organized crime links.

[Begin recording] [Bolkus] To the extent that people can be smuggled into places and money is there for this to be done, people are focussing on those countries that they can smuggle them into. Although I think for all of us there has been a cooperative spirit in the past in respect to these issues, but we think that by having this regional conference in Australia we can have a cooperative spirit building in a way that we can preempt some of the problems in our region.

[Mottram] What are the parallels specifically then between this consultation arrangement you have put in place and the agreed common plan of action in the eighties dealing with the Indochina boat people problem?

[Bolkus] Well, in respect to that I think that the plan of action—the comprehensive plan of action—had as its target the orderly processing of potential refugees, the orderly acceptance of those people, and of course, the orderly return of those who were determined not to be refugees. So, there is always an element of what to do with non bona fide refugees. When it comes to people smuggling, we have always got to accept that some people are bona fide refugees, but when you are talking about organized crime involvement in people smuggling, you have

also got to accept that we are talking overwhelmingly, I think, of cases that do not fit within our refugee category. The current approach is worth dwelling on. The comprehensive plan of action we got together with other countries in our region had worked on the problem which dealt with both refugees and non refugees. In this case, we are getting together once again with the countries in our region and other international mechanisms to once again work at, in this case, for greater priority on illegal smuggling, but also recognizing a need to be sensitive to the bona fide refugees.

[Mottram] The Indochinese issue is of course a trigger for quite some significant regional attention from time to time. Do you see a similar regional heat being generated over people smuggling?

[Bolkus] I don't think so. I think already there have been discussions, for instance with the USA and China, on this issue. Our region is fully aware of the problem and I think many countries in the region can see themselves as being targets of this specific problem and they don't like it. So I think there is a common awareness, common direction in our region to: one, recognize the problem; two, define the extent of it; and three, work together to try and overcome it. But I think when you have got that common bond in the early stage that we have now, I think you are actually working toward overcoming the tensions down the road.

I think we should look at previous experience. Tensions arose because countries are caught flat footed. [end recording]

Increased Growth Rate Shows Economic Recovery

BK1603091894 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] Australia's annual economic growth rate is now stated at 4 percent, following the release of figures showing growth increase by 1.7 percent in the three months to last December. The figures confirmed that an economic recovery is underway in Australia. But economists say they are also likely to fuel renewed market speculation about an

interest rate rise, despite comments by the prime minister, Paul Keating, last weekend that it was not the time for a rise.

The latest increase in growth is broadly based, with the official Australian Bureau of Statistics figures showing strengths in the housing sector, farming, retail spending, and manufacturing. The figures reflect a winding back of government spending as the recession eased, the slack being taken up in the private sector. However, growth in total business investment remained weak. Exports grew during the quarter by 2.2 percent, while imports were up by 1.3 percent.

New Zealand

Nuclear Test Moratorium Extension Praised

BK1703005294 Hong Kong AFP in English 2310 GMT 16 Mar 94

[Text] WELLINGTON, March 17 (AFP)—New Zealand Thursday welcomed a United States decision to extend its moratorium on nuclear testing for another year and called on China to take similar action.

On Wednesday President Bill Clinton advised congress that the moratorium would be extended a year until September 1995.

Foreign Minister Don McKinnon welcomed the decision, saying it meant Clinton regarded worldwide restraint on testing as important in making progress in nuclear non-proliferation.

"New Zealand agrees," he said in a statement. "I hope other nuclear weapon states which have suspended testing programmes will be reassured by the US decision. I think we can take it that existing moratoria will be maintained.

"China still has to agree to a moratorium.

"It would be fitting for China to show restraint at a time when the world has justified expectations of an end to the development of these terrible weapons," McKinnon said.

